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The Signal



Friday, March 19, 2004

Published for the Department of Defense and the Fort Gordon community

Vol. 24, No. 11

News UPDATE

Town Hall meeting

The 15th Signal Brigade is having a town hall meeting for Gordon Terrace residents at 6 p.m. **Thursday** at Freedom Park Elementary School. For information, call 791-8313.

Golf tournament

The Eisenhower Army Medical Center's Health Services Auxiliary is hosting its eighth annual Fisher House Golf Tournament **Friday** at Gordon Lakes. Cost is \$50 per individual and \$200 per team including a barbecue dinner. Prizes include gift certificates, and airline tickets and new cars for a hole-in-one. All proceeds benefit Fisher House. For information call 787-7100.

New gate hours

Beginning **March 29**, the following gate changes take effect:

- Gate 2 open Monday through Friday from 4:30 to 10:30 a.m. for decaled vehicles only and closed on weekends. Gate 2 is open to inbound traffic only from 4:30 to 10 a.m. Monday through Friday.

- Gate 3 open from 5:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and closed on weekends. Gate 3 inbound access continues to be limited to commercial vehicles and prior approved vehicles. Outbound traffic is unrestricted.

- Gate 5 open Monday through Friday from 4:30 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. and from 6 a.m. to 11:30 p.m. on weekends.

Masters tickets

The Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation has a limited number of one-day Masters tickets available for sale. Only active duty military personnel assigned here are eligible.

The drawing is **Monday**; winners may purchase tickets for \$44 each. Applications are available until **today** in Darling Hall, Room 260. For details, call Pat Camacho at 791-8204.

Furniture sale

The Director of Morale, Welfare and Recreation is having a furniture sale from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. **Friday** and **March 27** at Building 2303, corner of 9th Avenue and 11th Street near Gate 3.

All sales are cash only. Items may be viewed from 8 a.m.-3 p.m. **Thursday**, and the sale is open to the public.

Comic at Gordon

Ron "Tater Salad" White performs at 8 and 10:30 p.m., **Friday** in Alexander Hall.

Tickets are \$15, \$20, and \$25 and are available at the Dinner Theatre, Gordon Lanes, Fort Gordon Federal Credit Union, www.fortgordon.com, or call 793-8552.

Survey results will improve post

Pvt. Armando Monroig
Signal staff

The results of the Climate of Command survey taken by Fort Gordon Soldiers and civilians are in.

Nearly 2,500 participants completed the survey.

"The CCA is a vital tool for the commander to measure the quality of life on the installation for the workforce and for those who live here," said Brig.

Gen. Janet Hicks, U.S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon commander. "It is a user-friendly way for everyone in our community to tell decision-makers what is important to our fellow workers, Soldiers, families and customers."

Many of the concerns raised during the last command climate survey have been heeded and action has been or is being taken to make changes.

The process began at the

Inspector General's office.

Wendell Keith, deputy inspector general, explained the survey and his office's role.

"The mission of the Inspector General is to represent and advise the commanding general on matters affecting mission accomplishment and the state of economy, efficiency, discipline, morale, training and readiness of the command," said Keith.

The IG uses several tools to

assess these matters including the Command Climate survey, he said.

"Beginning in 2002, Lt. Col. Kimberly Carden, post inspector general, began exploring a means of reaching more Soldiers and civilian employees with the Command Climate survey," said Keith.

With Capt. John Holmes', HHC 15th Signal Brigade company commander, technical assistance an on-line survey

was developed and run for the first time in 2002.

Based on the on-line survey's success, improvements were made and a new on-line survey was distributed November 2003.

Those who did not have access to the on-line survey were given paper surveys, and the information was added to the on-line system, Keith explained.

See Survey, page 9A

Yard sale time

Denise Allen
Signal staff

With deals from around the world, the Great American Yard Sale is back at Fort Gordon.

"This gives housing area residents an opportunity to sell their items," said Stan Simmons, chief of plans and program division of the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security.

Residents can get a head start on spring cleaning by selling unwanted items from 8 a.m. to noon March 27 in all housing areas on post.

The first Great American Yard Sale was held last spring and was very successful, he said. Another, not as successful as the first, was held in the fall.

Those from the Augusta area will have a chance to buy

items they may not usually find at yard sales.

"Items seen at the Fort Gordon yard sale, people may not see elsewhere," he said, because of the travels associated with military life.

People entering post on the morning of the sale will receive a strip map to guide them to the housing areas. Patrons will park outside the housing areas, but will be allowed to bring their vehicles in the housing areas to pick up large items they've purchased.

While the sale is going on, there will be entertainment and food available at the youth activities center.

Whatever is not sold at the event can be donated to the thrift shop, which will sell the items and use the proceeds to benefit community and post activities.



Photo by Maj. Tina Schreiner

Welcome back

The 56th Signal Battalion officially welcomed the 235th Signal Company back from Operation Iraqi Freedom March 11 at Alexander Hall. The 235th spent the past year deployed, initially to the Central Command Area, where they provided voice, video, data, and satellite services to customers at various bases.

Forces join for training

Satellite training essential for battlefield

Spc. Sam Smith
Signal staff

As the military moves more and more toward joint forces teams, communication among the services becomes crucial.

Milstar is increasing that communication ability. Milstar is a series of five advanced U.S. military communications satellites which provide global jam-resistant communications for military users, including ships, submarines, aircraft and ground stations. Training on this system is being done in joint services classes here.

Each satellite weighs about 10,000 pounds, cost \$800 million and has a design life of 10 years. The system allows for improved communication between services.

"Milstar is an interoperable system," said Air Force Master Sgt. Nigel

Beckford, an instructor supervisor at the Satellite Communication School here. "(Now,) Army can talk to Navy, Navy can talk to Air Force."

Monday afternoon two Air Force instructors taught a class of maintainers how to troubleshoot problems they may encounter in the field. Although both instructors were Airmen, the class included Airmen, Sailors, Soldiers and civilian students.

"(Training) is going well," said Petty Officer 2nd Class Seth Rounds, a student in the class.

The skills Rounds and the other students are learning are crucial to relaying information in combat zones.

"If tasking orders come down and (servicemembers) don't get that information like yesterday, it can have adverse effects on the mission," Beckford said. "Good (communication) is essential to the mission."



Photo by Pvt. Armando Monroig

Brig. Gen Janet Hicks, U.S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon commander, re-enlisted 17 Soldiers Wednesday at the Courtyard. A first-ever retention social followed the re-enlistment.

Cause for celebration

Pvt. Armando Monroig
Signal staff

Nearly 20 Soldiers are in the Army again following a mass re-enlistment ceremony Wednesday at the Courtyard.

The ceremony was held in conjunction with the monthly Morale Call. It was a one-stop shop for celebrating, including a retention social, St. Patrick's Day, Morale Call with a "March Madness" basketball theme and the re-enlistment of 17 of Fort Gordon's finest.

Command Sgt. Maj. Alfred Simmons, command career counselor for Fort Gordon's retention office in Darling Hall, spoke of the importance of having the retention social.

"It's a social to say thanks to the Soldiers who re-enlisted within the last year," said Simmons, "to say thank you for staying with the Army family."

He said it's a salute to the Soldiers and their family for staying with the Army team, which could not function without them.

"It lets them know the command cares about them and thank them," Simmons said. "Without Soldiers staying in the Army, we won't have an Army."

In attendance were various notable figures including Brig. Gen. Jan Hicks, U.S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon commanding general, Sen. Saxby Chambliss, U.S. senator for Georgia, in addition to family and friends of the re-enlisting Soldiers.

Hicks spoke briefly to the room filled to capacity with family and friends.

"It is an honor to me to re-enlist these great Soldiers," she said. "It is a privilege and thank you all for asking me to do this and being willing to do your re-enlistment in front of this huge audience."

See Re-enlistment, page 6A



Photo by Spc. Sam Smith

Tech Sgt. Thomas Bell, class leader, teaches Petty Officer 2nd Class Jeffrey Johns how to troubleshoot the Milstar system.

SOBC volunteers help cook-up funds for youth club

Steve Brady
Signal editor

Volunteers from post helped make a difference for hundreds of local youth Monday. About 60 Signal Officer Basic Course Soldiers from classes 01 and 02 volunteered their time at the Boys and Girls Club 17th annual Steak and Burger Dinner at the Augusta State University gymnasium. Soldiers from here have been volunteering at the event for at least the last five years.

"We couldn't have done it without them and the amount of muscle they provided," said Mike Jones, executive director for Boys and Girls Club of Augusta, Inc. "They were key to putting this thing on."

The Soldiers helped serve food and clean-up afterwards. "They served 900 plates in 15 minutes, which was the fastest we've ever done it," said Rick Pinnell, board member for the group. "That's what I call organization - they get an A-plus from me."

"It's all run by volunteers, and without the people from Fort Gordon it would never fly," Pinnell added.

The Soldiers volunteering gladly supported the cause.

"The Boys and Girls Club event...was solely for the support of the children of the (Central Savannah River Area)," said Capt. Jaime Evans, 442nd Signal Battalion, Company B commander. "It was a great event that promoted the importance of the



Photo by Capt. Jaime Evans
2nd Lt. Miriam Borns, Company B, 442nd Signal Battalion Signal Officer Basic Course 001-04, helps serve dinner at the Boys and Girls Club annual Steak and Burger Dinner fundraiser. About 60 Soldiers from SOBC 01 and 02 volunteered to help at the dinner.

child, and Bravo Company was proud to be a part of this special occasion," she said.

"It is an event that has become a proud tradition for the Signal Officer Basic Courses. It is important to provide a positive image of Fort Gordon and

its importance in the CSRA."

The Boys and Girls Club is a non-profit organization with a mission to inspire and enable young people, especially those from a disadvantaged background, become responsible, productive and caring citizens.

The guest speaker was Ben Carson, head pediatric neurosurgeon at Johns Hopkins Hospital. Carson came from a disadvantaged background and admits to having a concern for children's welfare.

Each year the fundraiser helps the group raise about 10 percent of its annual operating budget. The money helps pay for utilities, staff payroll, program material and supplies, Jones said.

"We're already looking forward to the 18th event, and hope (Soldiers) are able to help again," he said. "They are very instrumental in what we do every year."



My goodness

Photo by Spc. Sam Smith

Carol Martin, procurement manager for Johnson Controls World Services Inc., reacts to accepting the Small Business Administration's Award of Distinction. Mitchell Morand, an area director for SBA, presented Johnson Controls the award March 10. Johnson Controls is the post's largest contractor. It received the award for hiring small businesses to perform 80 percent of its \$80 million service contracts on post.

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Voters prepare as elections loom

Staff Sgt. Stacy Wamble
Signal military editor

Every four years without fail, two things happen – leap year and elections.

There's nothing to be done for leap year, but the Army has a voting assistance program to help Soldiers register for national and local elections in their home state.

The goals of the program are to educate Soldiers about the importance and usefulness of voting, and the opportunity they have to participate in the voting process and to assist Soldiers, family members and retirees with voter registration, according to Sandy Huffman, installation senior voting officer.

"The right to vote is the very heart of our government," said Huffman quoting a Department of Army memo. "We need to make sure that everyone pays personal attention to that, and we're talking not only the presidential election but all the other elections to include local," she added.

Unit voting assistance officers are available to assist Soldiers and family members with this process, according to Huffman. Voting assistance officers will attend a workshop at 9 a.m., Tuesday in Darling Hall, Room 188. The two-hour workshop will help the VAOs better understand their role in the voting process.

"Our main purpose is ...not to coerce anybody to vote or how they vote," said Huffman. "We're just to educate them so they understand what they need to do."

"There are no records kept of how many vote or how many don't vote or which way they vote," she said. "It's strictly a personal decision. We

just want to make sure they understand."

Absentee ballots can be applied for by completing standard form 76, the federal post-card application which can be obtained from VAOs or it can be completed online at www.fvap.gov.

"Not only does this register them for an absentee ballot, but it also registers them to vote in federal, state and local elections," said Jim Davis, the Army's voting action officer in a Feb. 5 article with Army News Service. "Everything is taken care of in one step." "I recommend that Soldiers send in the federal post card application every year because they might have had an address change since the last election," he said.

The Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act requires states to allow absent military voters and overseas American citizens to use absentee ballots in elections for federal office, according to Davis.

"The states have extended this right to state and local elections also," Davis said. Typically absentee ballots are mailed out to citizens 30 to 45 days before an election. If those Soldiers, family or civilians who are located outside the United States send in their request for an absentee ballot in sufficient time and didn't receive their ballot, they can use the Federal Write-In Application Ballot (SF 186). This form allows them to write in their votes and send it in by the deadline. Voting assistance officers at each overseas unit should have the FWAB," he said. "The federal write-in application is primarily for federal elections; however, some states accept it," he said.

Upcoming events to assist Soldiers, family members and retirees with voter registration include displays to be set up during August, Voter Registration Month, and Sept. 3-11, Armed Forces Voters' Week. Displays will include posters and forms and will be at the post exchange, the commissary, Darling Hall and Eisenhower Army Medical Center.

Installation voting assistance officers

INSTALLATION VAOS
Sandy Huffman or Anne Harrison – 791-2914
93RD SIGNAL BRIGADE
Capt. Grant Sullivan – 791-9310

DENTAL LAB
Sgt. 1st Class Charlotte Martinez – 787-5200/3013

DENTAL ACTIVITY
Sgt. 1st Class Jacqueline Andress – 787-5176

DDEAMC
Sgt. 1st Class Stanley Marion – 787-8369

442ND SIGNAL BATTALION
1st Lt. Sung In – 791-2190

513TH MILITARY INTELLIGENCE BRIGADE
Capt. Travis Herron – 791-9460

116TH MILITARY INTELLIGENCE GROUP
Chief Warrant Officer 3 Von Adkins – 791-0931

15TH SIGNAL BRIGADE
Capt. Mark Henderson – 791-8013

U.S. ARMY GARRISON
Master Sgt. Mark Wade – 791-3650

NCO ACADEMY
Sgt. 1st Class Gerald Lee – 791-4199



Courtesy photo

Bronzed

Lt. Col. John Rutt (left), 63rd Signal Battalion commander, presents Staff Sgt. Paul Fenn, Company B area node platoon sergeant and operations noncommissioned officer in charge, the Bronze Star Medal for his service during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The 63rd Signal Battalion held an awards ceremony Feb. 25 and 26 to recognize the more than 400 Soldiers returning from Operation Iraqi Freedom. During the ceremonies about 35 Soldiers received the Bronze Star Medal for their service.

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Husband-wife duo work to retain quality Soldiers

Denise Allen
Signal staff

They've made the Army their career and have won numerous awards for helping others choose the same path.

Although they don't work in the same office, the husband and wife duo of Master Sgt. Yolanda Brock and Master Sgt. Timothy Brock share a similar task of career counseling.

Yolanda is the command career counselor for the Southeast Regional Medical Command, and Timothy is the senior installation operations sergeant.

Last year, she received top awards in retention at the Medical Command level, while her husband received similar top awards at the Training and Doctrine Command level. In the past, each has been a career counselor of the year.

"I surround myself with good career counselors," Brock said of her success with SERMC.

The Brocks met early in their military careers.

Each of them had only been in the Army for a short time when they met in Germany. He was a generator repairman, and she was a

medic. They married at Fort Sill, Okla., and have been together for 18 years. They've been in the Army for about 19 years.

About 10 years ago, he decided that he wanted to become a career counselor. At the time, dual careers had to share the same occupation field, she said.

She only planned to be in the Army for about three years.

"I joined for college," she said.

He enlisted for several reasons — "travel, stability, free education and a guaranteed paycheck."

Many of those reasons are the incentives he has used to keep people in the Army.

"When I was with the 15th Signal Brigade, I was a senior career counselor. I showed them the benefits - how much they were making versus how much they'd make if they separated, compared to the outside with the mix of benefits and non-taxable income," he said.

Now he's in the installation retention office and "mentors other counselors," he said.

Both of the Brocks are in school now looking at life after the military.



Photo by Denise Allen

Master Sgt. Timothy Brock and Master Sgt. Yolanda Brock have won several retention awards for their career counseling.

She is studying computer science and plans to retire next year. He is studying psychology and will retire

after she has become established in her second career. "That's always been our plan," she said.

Increased need for protective gear seen

Joe Burlas
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The Army continues to meet its Operation Iraqi Freedom force protection equipment requirements in a timely manner and Congress is helping to do that, the Army's top leadership recently told some of the nation's top lawmakers.

Acting Secretary of the Army Les Brownlee and Army Chief of Staff Gen. Peter Schoomaker appeared before the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Appropriations — Defense to give testimony March 10 on the 2004 Army Posture Statement, the Army's blueprint of what it wants to accomplish in the coming year with appropriated funds.

"Many of you have asked about measures we are taking to protect our forces in Iraq," Brownlee said. "The funds within the fiscal year 04 supplemental have sustained and supported our troops — and have literally saved their lives. I know that our Soldiers and their families appreciate your unwavering support on these issues."

That supplemental budget has allowed the Army to purchase more up-armored Humvees so that there are now more than 2,000 within the OIF theater, compared to 500 last spring, Brownlee said.

Costing about twice of the normal \$75,000 military Humvee production model, an up-armored Humvee has steel plate doors, ballistic-resistant windows and steel plating underneath the vehicle that offers bet-

ter protection against bullets, rocket propelled grenades and improvised explosive devices. An up-armored version also weighs about 3,000 pounds more than the regular version.

OIF requirements for up-armored Humvees has changed at least seven times in the last six months, according to Army officials. CENTCOM has received 2,322 against its latest requirement of 4,388. Brownlee testified that the Army is on track to deliver that critical requirement by October through industry ramping up to meet the demand and redistributing up-armored Humvees from other places in the Army.

"We have worked with industry to steadily increase production of these vehicles and will continue to do so — going from 185 produced this month, up to 220 per month by May," Brownlee said.

Achieving the 450-per-month production level will require about \$554 million additional funding in FY04 and \$151 million in FY05 to sustain that production through February 2005, said Army officials.

The Army has also been busy getting industry to ramp up production of the Interceptor Body Armor. As of January, the Army has met the OIF in-theater requirement for IBA. Production continues at 25,000 a month to field 840,000 against a total Army requirement.

"There are now sufficient stocks of IBA to equip every Soldier and (Department of Defense) civilian in Iraq and Af-

ghanistan," Brownlee said. "All Soldiers now rotating into theater will be issued a set of IBA either before they deploy to Iraq or immediately after arrival in Afghanistan."

To Congressmen's question as to why the Army did not have enough up-armored Humvees within CENTCOM last summer when insurgents started using improvised explosive devices, Schoomaker replied that the vehicle was designed for military police and scout use. "Nobody

saw the UAH as the primary platform to fight from," Schoomaker said.

They also said the Army will use some of the funds from the requested termination of the Comanche helicopter program to improve force protection of its aviation fleet. Specifically all Chinook helicopters — active, Guard and Reserve — will be hard wired to accept the latest aviation force protection suite so it may be installed when needed.

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Viewpoint

Information, Opinions, and Commentary

LandWarNet equips Soldiers with battlefield information

Spc. Lorie Jewell
Army News Service

Just as Soldiers need the best equipment and training to be successful on the battlefield, a steady diet of information is just as vital, Army leaders believe.

"Information is power," said Brig. Gen. Jan Hicks, commanding general of the U.S. Army Signal Corps and Fort Gordon, Ga. "We want to know things about the battlefield and we want to know things about our enemy on the battlefield. At the same time, we don't want the enemy to know what we know, or to know things about us."

Connecting Soldiers to information they need, whenever they need it and wherever they are, is the job of the Network, recently renamed LandWarNet. It's one of 17 focus areas the Army is emphasizing to win the Global War on Terrorism.

Hicks heads the task force assigned to make recommendations on how best to develop and improve LandWarNet so that it delivers better battle command capabilities to current, future, and joint forces.

The joint aspect is of particular interest, Hicks said.

"We're not going to war as an Army. We're going to war with our Sailor and Airmen friends," Hicks said. "We must be able to communicate with them without an extra step. We need a system that allows one call."

Ultimately, the task force wants to see a LandWarNet that gives combatant commanders the same capabilities for accessing information in any location, whether that's at a desktop computer in their office, in an aircraft, on a vessel at sea, in a vehicle en route to battle or in a post-battle camp, Hicks said.

"We're working on different ways to get there," she added.

One of those ways is through the Global Information Grid, or GIG. Hicks describes it as scaffolding built up around the globe.

"Communication lines go all over, pulsing through the GIG," she said. "It services the defense information switch network, or DISN, which is provided by the Defense Information Services Agency."

Forces can reach into the DISN with satellites and pull information services down

"We're talking about an almost clean sweep of the kind of equipment we have now. It will take a great deal of money to retool our networks while at war."

Brig. Gen. Jan Hicks
commanding general of the U.S. Army Signal Corps and Fort Gordon

to wherever they are in the world, she explained.

A combination of military and commercial technology powers LandWarNet, with leaders committed to pursuing programs that will enhance it even more.

"Our current IT investment strategy is centered on leveraging the best available

commercial technology," said Col. James Costigan, director of Combat Development at the U.S. Army Signal Center.

Leaders acknowledge that getting the network to the level the task force envisions is an expensive endeavor. Just how much is still being determined.

"We're talking about an almost clean sweep of the kind of equipment we have now," Hicks said. "It will take a great deal of money to retool our networks while at war."

Many leaders believe the Army can't afford not to make LandWarNet all it can be, however.

"The application of information technology can enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the processes involved in war fighting," said Costigan.

"Our experimentation with objective force concepts and our real-world experience in OIF shows us this notion is valid. Investing in IT systems to enable war fighting is therefore logical and necessary."

Editor's note: This is the tenth article in a weekly series on the 17 Army focus areas.

Smoke detectors help save lives

Joseph Hamm
Department of Public Safety

I recall in the mid 1970s when I was a teenager, I had an aunt who had a new house built. One unique thing about her new home was a new gadget that had been mounted on a wall of every room. The device was called a "smoke detector."

I recall my father poking fun about that noisy little thing, and using his cigar to make enough smoke to activate the piercing alarm. Everyone got a laugh about it, except for my aunt of course; she was getting quite agitated at hearing the detector alarm so much.

Little did I ever realize the impact that newfangled device would have on the lives of the countless thousands of people whose lives have been saved by this little annoying device that makes such a ear-piercing sound. Many times, through safety or fire reports, we hear about the innocent lives lost to fire. Over and over we hear the too common statement, "if only they would have had smoke detectors." Or, they had smoke detectors, but they failed to work because there were either dead batteries, or no batteries in the detectors.

Some of the reports that we run across are ones such as a recent house fire in Florida that killed six people, five of them children under the age of 7. Even locally there have been fatalities that may have been prevented if there had only been smoke detectors in those facilities.

As a fire inspector at Fort Gordon, I get an opportunity to be involved with the education of fire prevention on post, which includes the topic of smoke detectors.



Courtesy photo

This smoke detector performed its function appropriately. It warned the occupants of pending danger, then gave its life to the heat that eventually spread from one room to another. All of the occupants were able to escape these quarters unharmed.

I can personally attest to several instances here where the detectors have operated properly, the occupants were able to flee to safety and survive what could have been a horrific incident.

Just such an incident took place recently in family housing. The occupants heard the detector that brought to their attention a potential tragedy about to unfold, allowing them the time to evacuate the house immediately.

Daylight Saving Time begins April 4. When you "spring forward" it is a convenient reminder to change the batteries in your smoke detectors. Don't just test the detector for function. Put a fresh battery in them so you can be confident your detectors will function if ever needed.

Even with a fresh battery, make sure you "test" your smoke detectors every month. The majority of the detectors on Fort Gordon are hard-wired and do not

require batteries.

Do not let this give you a false sense of security that they'll work properly. Even the hard-wired detectors should be tested each month. If there is a failure or malfunction with your detector, contact the appropriate maintenance section at 791-5520 to have the detector repaired or replaced.

When you test your detectors, let your family members hear the alarm; especially young children. Explain to them what that sound represents, and if they ever hear it, to evacuate the home immediately, according to your fire evacuation plan. Once evacuated, stay out until the fire department arrives and lets you know it is safe to return to the building.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding smoke detectors, fire evacuation plans, or anything dealing with fire safety, contact the fire prevention office at 791-1235.

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Army moves to restructure deployable units

Sgt. 1st Class
Reginald Rogers
TRADOC Public Affairs

FORT MONROE, Va. — The Army is changing.

One change that is sure to affect Soldiers is in the area of unit restructuring. The Army is moving toward smaller, more deployable units, which can best be described as modular.

Under the Army's modularity focus area, future units will deploy as brigade units of action, or BUAs, instead of the current divisions. Each brigade will carry the same capabilities as a division but will include increased combat firepower. Its smaller size is what makes it more deployable than the division-sized units, according to Army experts.

"Modular really means packages," explained Maj. Gen. Robert W. Mixon, deputy director of the Futures Center at Fort Monroe. "The forces are in packages that can be deployed and still have the capabilities inside them."

"You've still got the chain of command," he continued. "You've still got the capability for lethality, firepower, agility, sustainment, communications and intelligence. It's all inside the formation and when you need to go, you've got it. You can take a small package and

grow it to a bigger package."

Although the changes will have a direct effect on the Soldiers who deploy as part of the brigades, it may even have a more significant effect on the family members who stay behind.

"First of all, we're going to have stabilization of people," Mixon said. "We're going to (be assigned to) posts, camps, and stations and stay longer. Families will be able to be more settled, (such as) spouses with jobs, kids in schools. We'll have the capability to go TDY and return for your educational needs. Those kinds of things will all be facilitated by stability. So we're gonna have a more stable force. You're gonna deploy and come home with your unit. So unit rotations will be the norm, not individual rotations."

The Army's move to modularity is reminiscent of the COHORT (cohesion, operational readiness and training) units of the 1980s. COHORT was a unit-replacement system designed to achieve stability and cohesion, and a regimental system to enhance cohesion and esprit.

Under the COHORT system, a group of Soldiers went through every phase of their military career together. They attended basic and advanced

training together before being assigned to their overseas unit and concluding their three-year tour.

"Being in the unit longer, you train with them, you deploy with them, you come back with them, you know each other," Mixon said. "That makes for a better unit."

According to Sergeant Major of the Army Kenneth O. Preston, restructuring the force is a smart move as the Army moves toward the future.

"Reorganizing the brigade combat teams in each of the divisions to BUAs is a critical and key step in making the Army more modular, flexible and relevant to the combatant commander," Preston said. "The BUAs will be smaller but more capable than their predecessors, the BCTs. The plan now is to grow the active Army from 33 BCTs to, initially, 43 BUAs and then potentially to 48 BUAs."

Preston explained that benefits from establishing BUAs over a lifecycle is stability for the organization throughout a deployment and predictability for Soldiers and their families.

"Soldiers assigned to a 36-month-lifecycle BUA knows they and their family will remain in place at their homebase throughout the lifecycle," he said. "The BUA may deploy for

a contingency operation like Operation Iraqi Freedom, Kuwait, etc., for 18 months during the lifecycle. The unit and all the Soldiers would then return back to their homebase immediately following the deployment."

Preston said a Soldier could spend six to seven years on the same installation. If a Soldier re-enlisted or extended during his or her initial duty assignment, he or she could leave his or her first duty station as a senior sergeant or staff sergeant, potentially to attend school or pursue follow-on career opportunities. Lieutenants newly assigned to an installation could see themselves leaving it after six years to attend the captains career course.

"The good news for these

Soldiers and their families is stability and predictability," he said. "Soldiers would not have to worry about packing up the family every three years to move to a new duty station. Children stay stabilized in the same schools, families in the same neighborhoods, and spouses in the same jobs and career fields in the local areas."

Mixon added that changes will require some getting used to.

"Most of (the changes), in my view, will be good news for Soldiers," he said. "Some will require change and adjustment, and no one's comfortable with that. None of us like change as much as (we like) keeping things the way we understand them, but this is a good-news story for Soldiers."

Army divisions currently have three maneuver brigades, but as part of the modularity focus area-related initiatives, that number will change to four. Mixon said initial modular conversions are currently taking place with 3rd Infantry Division, headquartered at Fort Stewart, Ga. The 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) at Fort Campbell, Ky., and 10th Mountain Division, headquartered at Fort Drum, N.Y., will also add BUAs this year.

"It starts this year with the 3rd Infantry Division, 101st and 10th Mountain," Mixon said. "It continues with the whole Army in the next three years, and probably a little bit beyond, to get all the Guard and Reserve units done, but it's underway, it's happening."

Re-enlistment

From page 1A

Hicks then introduced Chambliss.

"What a great pleasure it is for me to be here today. Every time I have the opportunity to visit a military base I swell up with pride," said Chambliss. "I see the sharp men and women representing the United States Army and I realize that in spite of this difficult time in the history of our country, the United States military continues to recruit the very finest and best America has to offer."

He said the retention social is a testament of that, adding the United States is the world's greatest country due largely in part to having the world's strongest military.

"On behalf of every member of the United States Senate, I want to thank you for the great job you've done every single day you've been serving your country, and for your willingness to continue to serve," Chambliss said.

He thanked those Soldiers who served in Iraq and also their families for the sacrifices made by having a loved one in the service.

Following Chambliss' speech, Hicks conducted a mass re-enlistment as the 17 Soldiers recited the enlistment oath.

Hicks presented each re-enlisting Soldier a certificate of discharge and their spouse a certificate of appreciation after

the re-enlistment.

After the re-enlistment a special presentation was held for Korean War veteran Alan Frank.

Frank was a second lieutenant and Signal Soldier assigned to the 10th Corps during the Korean War.

Chambliss and Hicks presented Frank, on his 75th birthday, with the Korean Freedom Medal for his service. In addition he was presented a letter from the President of the Republic of Korea, Kim Dae-Jung, thanking him for his efforts during the Korean War.

This was the first ever re-enlistment social but hopefully not the last, said Simmons, because it is important for Soldiers who re-enlist to know they are valued.

And Soldiers who re-enlisted took notice.

Staff Sgt. Jewel Singleton, a reserve re-enlistee for the 319th Transportation Company on Fort Gordon and civilian employee at Johnson Controls, said she enjoyed the ceremony.

"It was very professional. I liked the way they handled the re-enlistment," she said, adding it made her feel valued.

Spc. Daniel Abernathy, a four-year veteran and re-enlistee, agreed with Singleton.

"It was great. I never saw a re-enlistment ceremony coordinated like this," he said. "I thought it was awesome."

Abernathy added it was a

pleasant surprise to see how the command went out of their way to show how much they care about the re-enlisting Soldiers by holding the ceremony.

After the ceremony everyone was released and encouraged to enjoy the Morale Call events that followed.

Various recruiting organizations such as Special Forces, National Guard, Reserve and college ROTC had unit displays and gave away gym bags, posters, hats, drinking mugs and basketballs with the Signal logo on them.

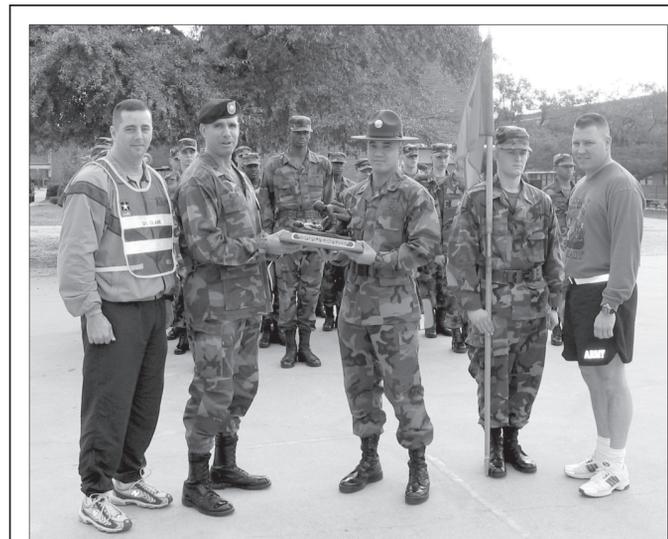


Photo by Erin Hamblin

Give blood

Company C, 447th Signal Battalion is the Unit of the Month award winner for donating 70 units of blood to Kendrick Memorial Blood Center in February. Accepting the award (from left to right) are Sgt. 1st Class Robert Clark, senior drill sergeant, Lt. Col. Michael Allen, 447th Battalion commander, Staff Sgt. Phillip Abenes, C Company drill sergeant, Pvt. Glen Bunting, guidon bearer, and Capt. Mike Crouse, 447th Company C commander.

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U.S.S.R. native relishes right to vote

Sp. Leslie Pearson
513th Military Intelligence Brigade

Jan. 30 marked a special day for Tamara Tetradze, a native of the Republic of Georgia. After four years of waiting, filing and re-filing seemingly endless paperwork, she became an American citizen and was able to exercise her right to vote for the first time at this year's primary election.

"I'd been waiting for so long," Tetradze said. "I'd taken all the tests and filed all the paperwork; I was just waiting to be sworn in. When I finally got the call I just thought, 'I can't believe this is really going to happen.'"

"I am glad to see that this has finally happened for Tamara," said Maj. Jason Hayes, former 513th MI Bde., Headquarters and Headquarters Company commander who was instrumental in helping Tetradze on her quest for citizenship. "She has been working at it for a long time and it is well deserved. I was fortunate to see how much this meant to her, how much work she put into it and I'm glad to see that it finally happened."

"At the swearing in ceremony they played the song 'I'm Proud to be an American' and I bawled my eyes out," Tetradze said. "There were 30 people there from 15 different countries so it was pretty touching because we said the oath together and all of a sudden we were Americans."

In 1991, as the Soviet Union dissolved, Tetradze and her father came to the United States on an invitation visa to see what things were like here. Their short visit turned into an extended stay when a civil war broke out in Georgia which prevented them from returning home.

"We were cut off," she said, "it was like they were self contained; you couldn't get in and you couldn't get out."

With only the clothes on their backs, the two went to Atlanta to start a new life. Tetradze's mother was still stuck in the USSR and it was nearly three and a half years before the family was reunited.

"When I arrived in the States I was only 16," Tetradze said, "so I had to have a guardian to go to school here. Our entire school burned down with all of my records so my dad and I lived with my guardian while I went to school." Adjusting to a new life was a bit of a culture shock for Tetradze, who spoke very little English at the time. She worked hard and after graduation went on to Georgia State University where she studied chemistry. It was around this time that Tetradze and her father received their green cards which gave them official

immigration status (lawful permanent residency) in the United States.

Tetradze met her husband, Staff Sgt. James Combahee, a training NCO in the 442nd Signal Battalion, at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, where he was performing security duties with his National Guard unit and she was volunteering as a Georgian translator. The two fell in love and were soon married.

In 1999 Tetradze decided to join the Army as a military police officer and realized the impact of not having her

citizenship.

"When I was already 12 weeks into my training at Fort McClelland, someone asked me what my plans were and I told them I planned to get my citizenship so I could become an officer. When they found out I wasn't a citizen I couldn't go on with the training. There's a limited amount of MOSs available for people who aren't citizens and military police officer isn't one of them," she said.

Still eager to serve her newly adopted country,

Tetradze didn't let this challenge discourage her. She wrote her Senator requesting that the two-year waiting period be lifted so she could join the Army again, this time as an accounting specialist. In 2001 she became part of the 513th Military Intelligence Brigade, a highly deployable unit.

"Without my citizenship I couldn't get a security clearance and without a clearance I couldn't deploy so I felt like it was hindering my job on many levels. I wasn't employed to my full potential," she said.

According to Tetradze, the Army represents a certain

comradery that she really admires and respects.

"My husband and I are extremely patriotic and we're raising our children to be patriotic too. I want them to understand that not everyone experiences the same kind of freedom that Americans do," Tetradze said. "In other countries, people can be killed if they speak out against their government. I believe in the cause, I believe in the Army."

Now, as a civilian, Tetradze works as a budget analyst for the 202nd MI Battalion.

"I really love my job, partly because I'm still in touch with the Soldiers. I love the fact that I'm supporting Soldiers who are deployed all over the place," she said.

The second milestone in Tetradze's journey was getting the opportunity to cast her vote during the Republican Primary.

"It was an amazing experience. I wanted to vote for our President because I think he's done an incredible job. It's easy for people to say, 'if I were the President I'd do things differently,'" Tetradze said.

"I wanted to exercise my right to vote and for the first time in my life I had a chance to choose my own government. No matter how the election turns out at least I know I had the right to make my own choice. So many Americans have the privilege to vote but don't do it, I just can't understand that."



Photo by Staff Sgt. James Combahee

Tamara Tetradze, a civilian employee with the 513th Military Intelligence Brigade, recently received her U.S. citizenship. As a former U.S.S.R. citizen, she highly covets her right to vote.

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Akbar referred for court-martial

Joe Burlas
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – The 101st Airborne Division Soldier accused of killing two officers and wounding 14 other Soldiers by rolling grenades into three sleeping tents in Kuwait last March will be tried by general court-martial.

Lt. Gen. John R. Vines, commander of XVIII Airborne Corps and Fort Bragg, N.C., referred charges against Sgt. Hasan Akbar March 3 as a capital case.

Akbar is accused of two specifications of premeditated murder under Article 118 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, and three specifications of attempted premeditated murder under Article 80.

The time between the March 22, 2003, "frag" incident and the referral of charges is due to two delays officials said.

First, the 101st Airborne Division was decisively engaged in major Operation Iraqi Freedom hostilities immediately following the incident, and in stability and support operations afterward. Akbar

was transferred to the division's higher headquarters, the XVIII Airborne Corps, Fort Bragg, in July as 101st stability and support operations in Iraq continued.

The second delay was due to a request from Akbar's defense counsel for sufficient time to prepare for the case. A civilian attorney, at no cost to the government, and two military lawyers are currently representing Akbar, officials said.

The case against Akbar was presented to Vines for a decision on how to proceed in late February.

Akbar faces a potential death sentence if convicted. He is being held in pretrial confinement at the Fort Knox, Ky., Regional Correction Facility. The trial will be held at Fort Bragg.

No date has been set for the general court-martial, though officials said they an-



Photo by K. Cassens
Lt. Col. Billy Buckner (left), XVIII Airborne Corps chief of public affairs, and Lt. Col. Jon Guden, XVIII Airborne Corps staff judge advocate, address the referral of charges against Sgt. Hasan Akbar at a press conference at Fort Bragg, N.C., March 4.

icipate the trial to begin sometime this summer.

(A XVIII Airborne Corps media release contributed to this article.)

Survey

From page 1A

"The 2003 survey addressed chain of command issues in TRADOC units such as sponsorship, awards, performance counseling and evaluations, job satisfaction and morale," said Keith.

Other post issues addressed were with childcare, post exchange, concessions, commissary, medical and dental care satisfaction.

"The survey was opened to all mission partner units on Fort Gordon with the results briefed to unit commanders and post support facility managers," said Keith, "while maintaining the anonymity of personnel participating in the survey."

Survey questions were obtained from other Army and civilian surveys as well as input received from post support activities such as the Eisenhower Army Medical Center, Equal Opportunity office and Garrison Staff, according to Keith.

"All the assistant IGs had input into that process," said Keith.

"This was a group effort."

He said everyone participated in designing the questions to inputting data from paper surveys and following up on issues that arose as a result of the survey.

Pat Buchholz, strategic management office, talked about some of those results.

There was a request for more ATM machines on post, she said. As a result of previous surveys, nine ATM machines had been added.

"We are now working with Wachovia to add two additional ATMs, and they'll be in the shoppettes," said Buchholz.

Having more fast-food facilities and restaurant options on post, especially 24-hour establishments for shift workers, is also a concern, she said.

"We are pursuing a public, private venture with a corporation off-post to put in a Huddle House," said Buchholz. "It'll be a 24-hour operation with sit-down service."

Capt. Earl Cochran, Military Police Detachment company commander, said this would be great for his Soldiers.

"We work 24-hours a day, seven days a week," he said. "I know the hospital does the same thing."

Huddle House will have carryout and delivery service. The facility groundbreaking should be within the next few weeks and the facility should be completed 60-75 days from groundbreaking, she said.

The facility will be on Avenue of the States in the post's commercial area.

"The good thing about public, private ventures is that a percentage of the revenue generated goes back to the MWR fund," said Buchholz. "So, it goes right back into providing services and facilities for our Soldiers and their families."

In addition to a Huddle House, there are plans for a Chinese restaurant to be located at the bus station.

Another issue raised by the survey was post fitness facilities dissatisfaction.

Buchholz said the command is considering bringing a Powerhouse Gym or Omni Fitness Center on Fort Gordon to improve fitness facility quality.

"We are also pursuing a military construction project," she said regarding the possibility of building another MWR-run gym, with a pool.

An improvement being made as a result of survey responses is the paving of the dirt track across from Darling Hall on Chamberlain Avenue.

Another issue being reviewed is the requests to increase the speed limit on post, said Buchholz.

"This issue is under review by the Garrison commander and there may be some changes in the near future," said Cochran. "I know the GC always has safety and the needs of the community in mind when making these decisions."

Buchholz said the survey is a tool people should use advantageously.

"It also alerts us to what works, what needs improvement, and it helps give direction in making Fort Gordon an even better installation," Hicks said.

"Previous CCAs have given us great ideas that we're already implementing," she said. "I've said many times that Signal Towers doesn't have the corner market on all the good ideas. It's only with the collective good ideas of the entire community that we make the greatest steps forward."

Cochran agrees saying it is a good way for him to gauge his unit.

"It lets us know how we are performing as law enforcement," he said. "We get to see if there's a pattern or problem with law enforcement on post or if there's consistent things going on we don't know about."

"When people speak up and let us know what's going on then we can do the research, find out what is required and what meets the needs of the majority of the folks out here," Buchholz said. "Their requests are not falling on deaf ears."



Photo by Spc. Sam Smith

High tech mannequin

Sgt. Keri Wheeler, a medic from Martin Army Community Hospital, checks out a medical mannequin March 11 at the Gordon Club. The Eisenhower Army Medical Center held an open house to show off their technology to private contributors and government agencies. Fort Gordon is the only post in the Army with these high-tech models, which are capable of simulating several medical conditions and responding to treatment.

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email: ADVLUCH@AOL.com
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Sunday School 0945 hrs.
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706-733-4416
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For more information, contact the church office

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2860 Wells Drive
P.O. Box 6749, Augusta,
Five Minutes From Gate 5
Call 798-6015 for Directions
Pastor - Rev. Michael E. Freed
Sunday School 9:00 a.m. -
Worship 10:30 a.m.
Nursery Provided, Visitors
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2616 Tobacco Road -
Hephzibah
706-796-3545

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10:00 a.m.

Children's Sunday School -
during worship service
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Holy Eucharist 7:00 p.m.
Bible Study - 7:45 p.m.

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2044 Lumpkin Rd
793-2251

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Sunday Worship 10:35 AM
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Wednesday Services for
all ages: 7:00 p.m.
email: aug1@bellsouth.net
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1434 Poplar Street
Augusta - 706-724-1086
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8 & 11 AM • 7:30 PM
Sunday School 9:30 AM
Wed. Bible Study 7:00 PM
Sat. Bible Study 9:30 AM
Sat. Prayer Service 11:00 AM

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2372 Lumpkin Road • 798-1454
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Worship • 11:00 a.m. & 6:15 p.m.

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Pastor: Rev. Michael Joslin

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515 Gibbs Road
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706-855-1249

www.evanschurchofchrist.org
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3rd Friday - Senior Adult
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2nd Saturday
Women's Outreach 9:00 a.m.

3rd Saturday & 3rd Sunday
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6:00 p.m. Evening Worship

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Saturday Prayer 11:00 a.m.

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Sunday afternoon at the movies

Chaplain (Maj.) Robert Lyons
Leader College for Information Technology

I'm not a movie go-er. I think the last movie I saw in a theater was about three years ago. And when I choose to go to the movies (or now, watch them on DVD), I want to be entertained. I don't want to have to think, or reflect, or be shocked, or be traumatized. The world offers a surplus of opportunities for all that.

I can just watch the news and get enough. If I have the leisure time available to invest three hours at a theatre, I'd rather see something inane or whimsical or romantic, and one with an unquestionably happy ending and a bright future – the way I want my life to turn out.

So why did I see "The Passion of the Christ"? That's a hard

question. I could think of several reasons. First, in the spirit of professional development, I thought I should be conversant with the most recent developments of my field. (Everyone will ask the chaplain what he thinks about it, so I had better see it before being blindsided.)

Or, because its release prompted controversy, I needed to be read in on the hype. (I secretly like to debate controversial issues, so I need to see it to defend my position.)

Or maybe, in my thirst of scholarship, I wanted to see how accurate and truthful Hollywood is in presenting the Biblical message. (I wanted to impress myself with my Biblical knowledge and sharpshoot the production.) There were several valid (or really, shallow) reasons I

could think of to see a movie that's out of character for me to see.

Regardless of why I spent that afternoon at the movie, what I found was tremendously greater than what I expected. It wasn't romantic or whimsical, or inane or entertaining. Indeed, in many places, it was undeniably shocking and traumatic. But it was love. It was a gift. It was a blessing.

We can debate who was responsible, who was to blame, who was at fault for Jesus' suffering, but debating those issues misses the point. I came away with the impression that whatever happened to Jesus was not what others did to him, but what he chose to do for them, and ultimately, what he chose to do for us.

We can approach our faith from the perspective that there is evil in

the world, or we can understand that love conquers and overcomes evil. We can focus on the shock and trauma of one person's agony, or we can look forward to the good which results from it.

In the end, then, I came away with what I always want in seeing a movie: an unquestionably happy ending and a bright future, because through the deep and abiding love of one person, many lives are touched and blessed.

While this movie was produced to speak mainly to people of the Christian faith, I believe it reaches across the span of human experience. It tells us how some people choose to serve others, even at the cost of their own lives. It reminds us that there are people who can see the good in people, even when that good is obscured with selfishness. It

helps us understand that the greatest gift we can offer another person is our selfless service.

Today, as every day for several years now, there are others we know who are also prepared to serve – our deployed Soldiers, and all who wear the uniform of our nation.

We can reach back 2,000 years to see the great miracle of one who served us in such a loving way, but we can also discover the minor miracle of similar service exhibited in our communities, and among our sisters and brothers. The gift, then, of this movie, and the life it portrays, is that it shows us the power of one's love for us, and it propels us to serve others through that same love.

Peace be to you – and pray for all our Soldiers.

Tax matters

Redeployed servicemembers, Reservists, new enlistees may qualify for income exclusions, deferrals, other benefits

Maj. James Lewis
93rd Signal Brigade

Redeployed and currently deployed servicemembers, Reservists called to active duty, and new enlistees in the armed forces may well qualify for several tax benefits. It may literally pay to know which of these benefits apply to you.

DEFERRALS FOR RESERVISTS AND NEW ENLISTEES

If Reservists and new enlistees can show their ability to pay owed taxes is impaired because of military service, they can qualify for a deferral of taxes owed under the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act of 2003. The SCRA, formerly known as the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940 is a federal law that gives all servicemembers important rights as they enter active duty. Reservists must enter active duty to qualify.

The deferral applies to taxes due before or during military service, and extends the payment deadline to six months after the military service ends. No interest or penalty accrues during the deferral period.

The deferral is not automatic, however. When applying for the deferral, the taxpayer must prove both an inability to pay the tax and that this inability resulted from military service. A taxpayer must have received a notice of tax due, or be on an installment agreement with the IRS, before applying for the deferral. It is limited to an initial period of service, not reenlistment periods. This would include:

- an active duty period pursuant to a first enlistment,
- a period of service following recall to active duty from a Reserve or National Guard unit,
- the first period of a reenlistment following a break in service of at least one year.

The deferral does not extend the deadline for filing any tax returns. Taxpayers may get extra time to file under other provisions, such as being sta-

tioned overseas or in a combat zone. Details on applying for the tax payment deferral are in IRS Publication 3, "Armed Forces' Tax Guide."

EXTENSION OF TAX FILING DEADLINES

Armed forces members who served in a combat zone or a qualified hazardous duty area are allowed additional time to take care of tax matters (referred to as a deadline extension). The deadline for taking actions with the IRS is extended for at least 180 days after the later of:

1. The last day the taxpayer is in a combat zone (or the last day the area qualifies as a combat zone), or
2. The last day of any continuous qualified hospitalization for injury from service in the combat zone.

SPECIFIC ACTIONS EXTENDED

Some of the tax actions to which the deadline extension provision applies include:

1. Filing any return of income, estate, or gifts tax;
2. Paying any income, estate or gift tax;
3. Filing a petition with the Tax Court for redetermination of a deficiency or for review of a Tax Court decision;
4. Filing a claim for credit or refund of any tax;
5. Bringing a lawsuit for any claim for credit or refund;
6. Purchasing a replacement residence to postpone paying tax on the gain on the sale of the old residence;
7. Making a qualified IRA contribution;
8. Allowing a credit or refund of any tax by the IRS, and assessment of any tax by the IRS;
9. Collection by the IRS of any tax due.

SPOUSES

Spouses of individuals who served in a combat zone are entitled to the same extensions.

CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES

The deadline extension provisions also apply to certain civilians serving in a qualified hazardous duty area in support

of the U.S. Armed Forces, such as American Red Cross personnel, accredited correspondents and civilian personnel acting under the direction of the U.S. Armed Forces in support of those forces.

MILITARY PAY EXCLUSIONS

The IRS permits certain portions of military pay to be excluded from gross income. For commissioned officers, the monthly pay exclusion is capped at the highest enlisted pay, plus any hostile fire or imminent danger pay received. The monthly enlisted pay exclusion is the actual enlisted pay, plus hostile fire or IDP. The Emergency Wartime Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2003 raised the IDP to \$225 per month through September 2003. The 2004 National Defense Authorization Act extended this higher rate through December 2004.

The following military pay can be excluded from gross income:

1. Active duty pay earned in any month they served in a combat zone.
2. A dislocation allowance, if the move begins or ends in a month they served in a combat zone.
3. A reenlistment bonus, if the voluntary extension or reenlistment occurs in a month they served in a combat zone.
4. Pay for accrued leave earned in any month they served in a combat zone.
5. Pay received for duties as a member of the armed forces in clubs, messes, post and station theaters, and other nonappropriated fund activities. The pay must be earned in a month the member served in a combat zone.
6. Awards for suggestions, inventions, or scientific achievements members are entitled to because of a submission they made in a month they served in a combat zone.
7. Imminent danger pay.

(See The Signal next week for more helpful tax information.)



Courtesy photo

Tales from the field

Col. Michael Guthrie, U.S. Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon assistant commandant, spoke at the "Young at Heart" luncheon at the First Baptist Church in Thomson March 9. He spoke to senior citizens about his experiences in Iraq, presenting a different point of view of the Iraq story not often shown by the media.

Yard of month contest grows

The Fort Gordon Family Housing Beautification program begins in April.

The program is intended to promote continual beautification of Fort Gordon housing areas and recognize those who keep their quarters beautiful. The contest runs through September for all post residents living in family quarters.

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

For more information about the program, call Sharon Butler at 791-9656.

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. Cont. 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

Drill sergeant spotlight

Name: Staff Sgt. Willie Morrow
Unit: Company D, 369th Signal Battalion
Hometown: Tuscaloosa, Ala.
Time at Fort Gordon: Three and a half years
What do you enjoy about being a DS? Training the best Soldiers in the Army.
What do you want to accomplish in the Army? To make the rank of sergeant major in 15 years.



Staff Sgt. Morrow

Community Events

Networking group

Army Community Services is having a Networking Group 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. **Wednesday** in Room 229-A, Darling Hall for those in search of employment. It provides an opportunity for job seekers to meet and exchange information on possible places of employment, ideas on job hunting and mechanisms to stay positive during the search. The guest speaker is Jack Baker from the Georgia Department of Labor, who will address finding hidden job markets, how to

use the American Job Bank and the Georgia Department of Labor.

Call 791-3579 to register or for more information.

Spring yard sale

All Fort Gordon housing residents in all housing areas can participate in the Spring Edition of the Great American Yard Sale **March 27** from 8 a.m. to noon by selling items from their front yards.

There will be youth activities and food concessions at the Youth Activity Center from 8

a.m. to 1 p.m. Additionally, unit readiness groups will have group concessions. The marching band will host concerts through each housing area.

The public is invited to purchase items. The Installation Operations Center can be contacted at 791-9747/9746 for additional information.

Fashion show

Army and Air Force Exchange Service is having a fashion show at 1 p.m. **April 4** during brunch at the Gordon Club.

The event is sponsored by AAFES and Morale, Welfare and Recreation. For information, call 793-7171 x317.

SCRA run

The Signal Corps Regimental Association is having its 12th Annual SCRA Spring Challenge 10K Run and 1 Mile Kid's Run/Walk beginning at 7:30 a.m. **May 15** in front of the Regimental Noncommissioned Officer Academy.

Registration is \$15 before May 8; \$18 after; \$20 day of race; kid's run registration \$8. The first 850 registrants will receive a T-shirt.

Register at www.signalcorps.org (follow the link on "SCRA Run") or call Kim Lyons at 791-6234.

Child care certification

Child and Youth Services will conduct Family Child Care certification training classes for family members living in government quarters who wish to provide child care in their homes. Registration is 9 a.m.-noon **April 1 and 2**, and certification classes will be held 8 a.m.-5 p.m. **April 19-23**. Interested applicants should contact the Family Child Care office at

791-3993 or 791-4440.

Records update

Eisenhower Army Medical Center is updating its medical data base system. Implementation of the new system is scheduled to be completed by the end of **May**.

Completion of the new database may cause some delays in getting routine patient appointments.

For information, call the patient representative's office at 787-7820/4656.

Orientation course

The commander and first sergeant Orientation Course is **April 12-16** in Darling Hall, Room 229B. Class begins at 8:45 a.m. Monday, 9 a.m. Tuesday to Friday, and is finished by 5 p.m. daily.

Registration deadline is 5 p.m. **April 6**. Any commander or first sergeant who has just assumed command, has been serving in the position six months or less, or who are about to take command may attend.

To register or for information call Sgt. 1st Class Darron Ison at 791-9536, or e-mail isond@gordon.army.mil.

Women's history month

March is Women's History Month. The 2004 theme is *Women Inspiring Hope and Possibilities*. The Women's History Month command program is 1:30 p.m. **Tuesday** at Alexander Hall.

Guest speaker is Brig. Gen. Julia J. Cleckley, special

assistant to the director, Army National Guard and the special assistant for military women for Federally Employed Women. She is the first minority woman, line officer, to rise to the rank of brigadier general in the Army National Guard.

For information call Master Sgt. Tonja Deans at 791-2014.

The School Yard

Pre-K registration

Freedom Park Elementary School Pre-K registration is 8 a.m.-4 p.m. **Tuesday**; the drawing will be held at 4 p.m. Required documents for registration include: Students must live on post (proof of residency), birth certificate, immunization records on Georgia form, eye, ear and dental records on Georgia form, and their social security card.

CDC fashion show

The Child Development Center will present a fashion show featuring Fort Gordon children **April 9** at 10 a.m. Parents are encouraged to attend.

On **April 23**, CDC will sponsor a military truck convoy. For information, contact Lorraine Willis at 791-2718.



Fort Gordon REPORT

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

- 235th Welcome Home ceremony
- Drill sergeant of the year competition
- Read Across America

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 *Army Newswatch* premieres **March 29**.

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.

WARNING!!!

IF YOU HAVE NOT FILED YOUR TAX RETURN THIS YEAR...KEEP READING!

"Last minute" filers need help dealing with complex NEW tax laws affecting this year's tax returns!

The IRS April 15th deadline is only a few weeks away!

Rhodes-Murphy is offering an unheard of special last-minute tax filer discount for anyone who has procrastinated and needs a tax professional to help them deal with the IRS and all those NEW complicated tax laws!

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At the Movies

The Signal Theater is open Thursday-Sunday. Shows begin at 6:30 p.m. The late show on Saturday begins at 9:30 p.m.

Children 12 and over and all adults are \$3. Children 6-11 are \$1.50. Children under 5 are free.

For movie listings and times, call 791-3982.

March 19-25

Today-Barbershop 2: Back in Business (PG-13)
Saturday-Win a Date with Tad Hamilton (PG-13)
Saturday-You Got Served (PG-13)
Sunday-Barbershop 2: Back in Business (PG-13)
Thursday-You Got Served (PG-13)

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

Fort Gordon 8th Annual Fisher House Golf Tournament

March 26, 2004
Hosted by Health Services Auxiliary Fort Gordon
Many Thanks to Our Area Donors

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Kroger Evans, GA
Limelight Cafe
Meybohm Realtors
Martina's Flowers & Gifts
Martial Arts America
Michelle James Hair Production and Modeling Agency
Milton Reuben Auto Mall
Mount Vintage Plantation Golf Club
MWR
Omni Health and Fitness, Evans
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QUICK.

WHO REALLY OWNS CREDIT UNIONS?

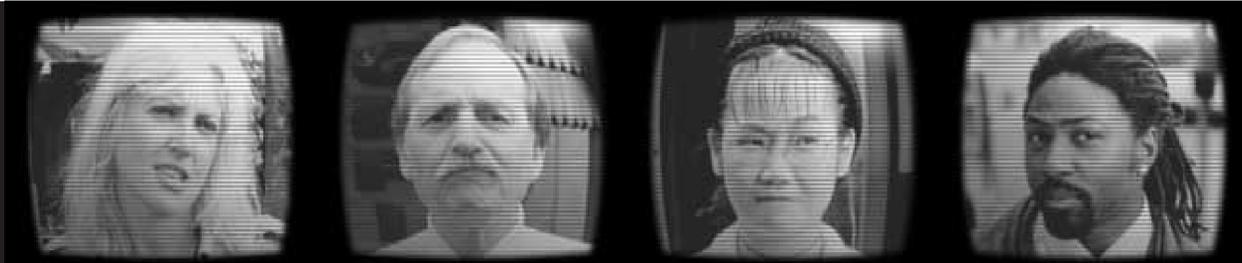


THE PEOPLE WHO ARE CREDIT UNION MEMBERS.

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Now you know.

OKAY.

WHERE DO CREDIT UNION PROFITS GO?



BACK TO THE PEOPLE WHO BELONG TO THEM.

Some people may not realize that credit union members share in the profits. That's because credit unions are member-owned financial institutions. That means they share the wealth with the people who belong to them and use their financial services.
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SO.

WHAT EXACTLY ARE CREDIT UNIONS?



FINANCIAL COOPERATIVES RUN BY THE PEOPLE WHO BELONG TO THEM.

A lot of people aren't aware that credit unions are actually financial cooperatives, which are owned and run by the people who belong to them — the members. Even a credit union's board of directors is democratically elected by and from the membership.
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Sports & Leisure

Sports

UPDATE

Sports news

3 on 3 Basketball Tournament – Fort Gordon Sports and Fitness will host a 3 on 3 Tournament **March 27-28**. The tournament is for active duty military personnel only. Sign-up at Gym #4, Bldg. 29607 by **today** to participate. For information, call Sam McAdoo at 791-3692.

Unit Level Volleyball – The Fort Gordon 2004 Unit Level Volleyball League will begin Monday in Gym 5. Coaches or designated representative may pick-up a copy of the league schedule from the Sports Office, Bldg. 29719.

Unit Level Softball – The Unit Level Men Softball Program will be **May 4 to Jul 4**. The Unit Level Women's program is **May 4 to June 4**. Units desiring to enter a team must submit their memorandum of intent by **April 5** to the Sports Office, Bldg. 29719. A coach or designated representative must attend a coach's organization meeting at 1 p.m. **April 6**.

Track and Field Championships – The Track and Field championship will be **April 12-23**. Memorandums of intent are due by **March 22**. A coach or designated representative must attend the coach's organization meeting at 1 p.m. **Wednesday**.

Battalion Level Basketball – The Fort Gordon 2004 Battalion League will begin Monday in Gym 3. Coaches or designated representative may pick-up a copy of the league schedule from the Sports Office, Bldg. 29719.

For more information, contact Al Robinson at 791-1142 or e-mail robinsona@gordon.army.mil.

Golf news

The Eisenhower Army Medical Center's Health Services Auxiliary is hosting its eighth annual Fisher House Golf Tournament **Friday** at Gordon Lakes. Cost is \$50 per individual and \$200 per team including a barbecue dinner. Prizes include gift certificates, and airline tickets and new cars for a hole-in-one. All proceeds benefit the Fort Gordon Fisher House. For more information call 787-7100.

The 15th Signal Brigade is sponsoring the 2nd Annual AER Golf tournament **April 2**. The four-person scramble includes a lunch buffet. Check-in starts at 10:30 a.m. Price is \$30 for GLGC members and \$40 for all others. Prizes will be awarded. To sign up call Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Millward at 791-5913 or e-mail millward@gordon.army.mil.

Triathlon entries

Entries are being accepted for the **May 1** Tin Man Triathlon at Fort Rucker, Ala. The event is a fund-raiser for Army Emergency Relief. A Duathlon for non-swimmers is included. For details go to <http://www.trifind.com/r/tinman.html>.

Advance entries are \$30 for individuals, \$65 for two-person teams. The first 100 entrants in each event receive a T-shirt. To register e-mail curtis.harper@rucker.army.mil or call (334) 255-9133.



Photos by Spc. Sam Smith

Staff Sgt. Louis Rodriguez trades punches and kicks with Harris Norwood in five rounds of kickboxing. Rodriguez emerged from the battle victorious.

TALKING THE MAT

Gordon Soldier showcases kickboxing talents

Spc. Sam Smith
Signal Staff

Winter Wars 2004, a exhibition of single fights, showcased several professional and amateur mixed martial arts and kickboxing fights in Gym 5 Saturday including a fight featuring one of Fort Gordon's own Soldiers.

Staff Sgt. Louis Rodriguez, 116th Military Intelligence Group, won the main card fight by decision in a tough five-round battle against Harris Norwood.

"It's good Fort Gordon could come out and support a local Soldier," Rodriguez said. "I like the reaction of the crowd, when you get a good hit in there and everyone 'oohs.' I love that kind of attention."

Rodriguez says he originally got into martial arts not for the attention of the crowd, but for all the wrong reasons. He started taking Tae Kwon Do when he was 13 because he wanted to fight, and it got him in trouble. He says he had to gain more discipline as he got older to be able to fight competitively. Over the years he's studied Tae Kwon Do, Jiu-jitsu, Muay Thai, and American kickboxing.

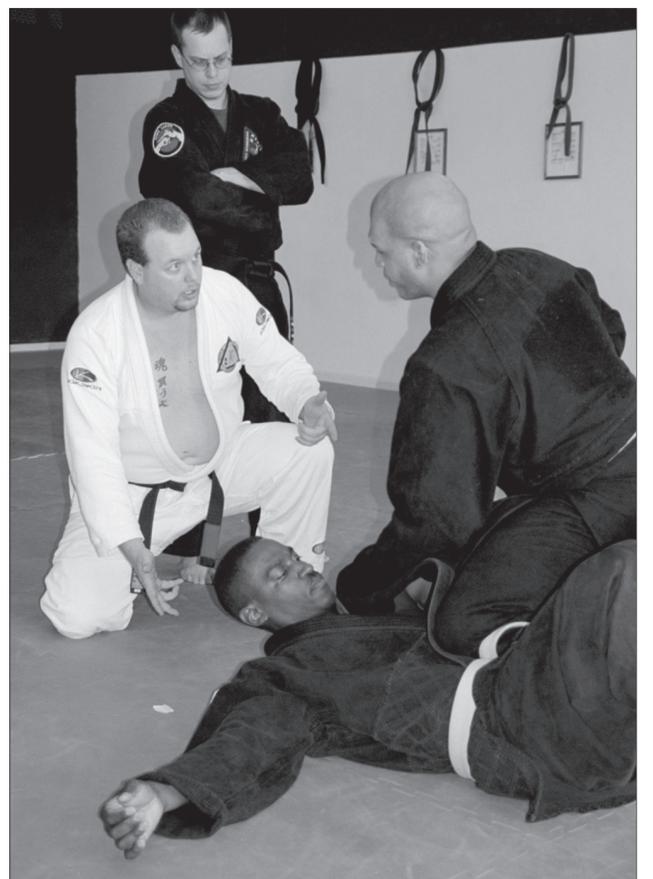
The trophy Rodriguez won is one of many he has earned in the over 13 years he's been kickboxing.

He says the key to his training is repetition. He practices the same thing over and over until it's second nature. He trains seven days a week from 7-9 p.m. at the Augusta Martial Arts Academy sparring about once every two weeks.

"[The sparring] is about the same intensity as [competing]. It's just with people at the school," he said. "We fight a lot."

Even with all the fighting he does, he says serious injuries are rare.

"It's mostly cuts and bruises," he said referring to the large bruise and cut by his left eye, "and soreness—a lot of soreness."



Courtesy photo

Take down

Staff Sgt. Michael Gipson (on the mat), 442nd Signal Brigade, and Spc. Derek Cobbs, 15th Signal Brigade, attended a World Jiu-jitsu Academy workshop in Walterboro, S.C., and received several hours of free training from 4th degree black belt Bill MacCumbie (in white), a former Airborne soldier and Desert Storm vet. Both men will compete in the beginner heavy-weight category as members of the Fort Gordon team at the May 8 Brazilian Jiu-jitsu submission competition. Anyone interested in the tournament can contact 1st Lt. Sean Mann at 791-0105 or e-mail him at manns@gordon.army.mil. The event, which will be at the University of South Carolina's Salkahatchie campus in Walterboro, is open to all. The combatives class at Gym #5 is free to all military personnel and is held every Thursday at 6 p.m.

Unit Sports Standings

STANDINGS AS OF MARCH 8

Soccer

Team	Won	Lost	Team	Won	Lost
<i>Morning Division</i>					
B-447	4	0	HHC 206	4	2
C-73	3	2	C-551	2	1
C-551	2	2	A-201	4	3
D-369	0	5	B-EAMC	2	2
<i>Evening Division</i>					
			E-447	3	3
			311S	3	4
			C-73	2	4
D-369	5	1	D-551	0	2
B-447	4	1	D-447	2	6
A-EAMC	4	1	C-369	1	6

ADVERTISING SECTION

At EASE

Events - Crossword - Kiddie Corner - Restaurant Review - Classifieds

Citizen Classified Ads

About Our Classifieds
Personal classified ads are available at a special Paid in Advance Rate. To qualify, you must use the form in this publication and mail us your ad prior to deadline with payment enclosed. Though we recommend placing your ad on the form provided, we will accept ads by phone at 706-724-2122 or 706-554-2111. We accept MasterCard and VISA. We ask, however, that you pay promptly to avoid additional costly billings. Large type ads are available for added impact by calling our Swap & Shop advisor at 706-724-2122 or 706-554-2111.

100-199 SERVICES

Automotive Repairs	100
Baby-sitters/Child Care	105
Domestic Services	110
Financial Services	120
Home Improvement	130
Furniture Refinish	135
Land & Lot Clearing	140
Lessons & Learning	150
Personal Services	160
Secretarial Services	170
Lawn & Garden Care	180
Miscellaneous Services	190

200-299 NOTICES

Business Opportunities	200
Lost & Found	210
Miscellaneous Notices	290

300-399 WANT ADS

Help Wanted	300
Work Wanted	310
Wanted to Buy	320
Wanted to Trade	330
Wanted to Rent	340
Miscellaneous Wanted	390

400-420 REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

Real Estate Notice	400
Commercial Property	401
Lots & Land	402
Homes For Sale	405
Condos/Townhouses	410
Mobile Homes For Sale	415
Miscellaneous	420

425-455 REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

Apartments For Rent	425
Commercial Rentals	427
Condos/Townhouses	430
Homes For Rent	435
Mobile Homes For Rent	440
Mobile Home Lots	445
Rooms	447
Vacation Rentals	447
Miscellaneous Rentals	455

460-700 ITEMS FOR SALE

Agricultural Items	460
Antiques	465
Appliances	470
Auctions	490
Baby Items	500
Cameras	510
Computers	520
Farm Equipment	530
Furniture	540
Good Things To Eat	550
Golf Equipment	560
Musical Items	590
Other Electronics	600
Pets & Animals	610
Sporting Goods/Firearms	620
Stereos/Radios	630
TVs, VCRs, Videos	640
Yard & Garage Sales	690
Miscellaneous For Sale	700

710-790 TRANSPORTATION

Auto Parts & Accessories	710
Classic Autos	720
Automobiles	730
Trucks, Vans, 4WDs	740
Motorcycles	750
Campers and RVs	760
Boats	770
Misc. Transportation	790

105 Child Care

FAMILY CHILD CARE STATE REGISTERED Martinez area, near I20 and Belair Road. \$75 to \$85 per week. All shifts. 706-306-8230.

IN HOME CHILD CARE Lowest rates in town. Spring break openings only. Call 706-836-1134.

110 Domestic Services

BELL CLEANING SERVICE Clean the old fashion way. Apartment, Office, Home. Call Felicia for free estimates. 706-231-2273.

CUSTOM MAID SERVICE 20% discount all new customers. Free estimates. 1-866-313-MAID.

130 Home Improvement

L & J HOME IMPROVEMENTS, INC. Jerry Gilpin, 706-554-4086. Specializing in residential and commercial roofing and repairs. Gutters, siding, carpentry and windows. Insured and bonded.

RENSEIABELL COBB & SON 925 Cobb Road, Midville, GA 30441. Building & Remodeling. Vinyl Siding, Roofing, Contracting, Room Additions, Plumbing, Painting and Other. Free Estimates. Bus: 1-478-494-0523. Home: 1-478-589-7629.

180 Lawn Services

JERRY'S LAWN MOWER REPAIR Get 'em in and get 'em ready for grass cutting season. Will pick up riders within ten miles of Millen, free. Also service and repair chainsaws and weed eaters. 360 Lee Street, Millen. 478-982-4427.

MILAM'S LAWN CARE Winter cleanup & lawn maintenance. Light hauling. 706-466-0278. 706-554-1909.

SPRING IS ON THE WAY Please contact us with any of your lawn care needs. 706-554-7532.

190 Misc. Services

CARPET CLEANING Four rooms \$99. We move furniture. 706-554-4012. Pager 732-7615.

CARPET CLEANING Three regular size rooms and hall, \$63.95. 706-554-4068.

FAST QUOTE FOR LIFE INSURANCE Call Richard Daniels. 706-466-3366 or 554-2402 or email claudedaniels@msn.com.

HANDYMAN, LAWN, LANDSCAPING Construction, equipment operator, general labor. 10 years experience. 706-466-2918.

LAWN CARE AND PRESSURE WASHING 706-554-4530.

TELEPHONE JACKS completely installed, \$35 each. Licensed and insured, guaranteed. Call Hawk at 706-863-4022.

WILLIAM'S LANDSCAPING & PRESSURE WASHING Mowing, Bush Hog, Driveways, Painting, Small Lot Clearing. 478-589-7032 or 706-466-1529.

200 Bus. Opportunities

OWNERS RETIRING Well established family run Supermarket (Meat-Market). Excellent location downtown, Louisville, Georgia, strong customer base. Includes inventory, fixtures, equipment with or without real estate (complete turn key operation). Several options available on purchasing and financing. For details call day, 478-625-7231, after 7 p.m. 706-592-5323.

210 Lost & Found

FOUND BLACK LAB PUPPY 7 or 8 months old, wearing blue collar and orange flea collar. Owner can claim by identifying. 478-982-3430.

FOUND RING NEAR CITY PARK To describe and claim call The True Citizen at 706-554-2111.

FOUND TWO SMALL DOGS in Burke Apothecary area. Call to identify. 706-554-7533 or 554-3341.

LOST GOLD LINK BRACELET at Bilo Shopping Center. Reward offered if found. 706-554-2482.

225 COMMUNITY EVENTS

AUGUSTA CHILDREN'S CHORALE AUDITIONS Call the ACC office at 706-826-4718 for an audition appointment and for more information.

AUGUSTA STATE UNIVERSITY CONTINUING EDUCATION Thursday, March 18 - May 13, beginning Arabic Language. Saturday, March 20, Power Yoga. Monday, April 12 - May 17, Beginning Golf. Monday, Wednesday and Friday, March 22 - June 4, Aquacise. Thursday, March 25 - April 29, Writing Your Memoirs II. Friday and Saturday, March 26 - 27, Picturing the Civil War. Monday, March 15, Saturday Review. Call 706-737-1636 or www.ced.aug.edu 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.

GOOD HOPE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH is now offering GED Classes to the general public. Monday thru Thursday, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. For more information call 706-722-5317.

Transportation & Construction

Certify as a professional truck driver, heavy equipment operator, or both. Start phase-1 home study now and complete phase-2 residence training during terminal leave. NTI is nationally accredited with job placement. Enrollment fee exemption for Army, Navy, Marine E-3 & 4. Approved for 100% Up-Front Active Duty Tuition.

CALL TOLL FREE 866-865-1527
truckschool.com

225 COMMUNITY EVENTS

HELP FOR ABUSED INDIVIDUALS A support group that practices anonymity in helping individuals whose life is affected or has been affected by another individual who is using or has used drugs or alcohol. For more information call 706-860-0302.

MEMBERS OF THE 8TH SIGNAL BATTALION 8th Infantry Division who were stationed at Rose Barracks, Bad Kreuznach, Germany are invited to the 2nd annual friendship reunion May 20 - 23, 2004, Augusta, GA. For additional information please visit www.8thsig.org.

SACRED HEART GARDEN FESTIVAL 2004 Friday, March 19 - Sunday, March 21, 2004. For more information please contact Sacred Heart Cultural Center at 706-826-4700, visit our web site at: www.sacredheartaugusta.org, or email us at sheart@knology.net.

THE FAMILY Y in partnership with First Tee of Augusta launches the Par Fitness Youth Golf Program for ages 12-18, six week program, beginning March 20. For more information call Kenya Barry at 706-733-1030.

THE FAMILY Y'S AQUATICS SESSION III is scheduled March 29 - May 8. For more information call 706-738-6678 or visit The Family Y at www.thefamilyy.org.

THE SANCTUARY CHOIR of the Thankful Baptist Church, 302 Walker Street, Augusta extends to you an invitation to attend their One Year Christian Service Celebration on Sunday, March 21 at 3 p.m. For more information call 706-790-9230 or 836-9021.

300 Help Wanted

NEEDED IMMEDIATELY LPN'S AND RN'S \$18-\$30 per hour. CNA's \$11-\$12. Extra incentives. Attendance, travel, referral and holiday. Excel Staffing, 1-800-881-9235 ext. 5.

NEEDED PERSON TO WORK IN Feed store. Loading and unloading trucks and keeping warehouse clean. \$6.50 per hour. Apply at 142 S. Liberty Street, Waynesboro.

RETAIL SALES Part time temporary for special promo oriental rug sale at the Fort Gordon PX. March 30 - April 22, 2004. \$9 hour. Call Sandy 972-713-6373.

SAMSON MANUFACTURING COMPANY, INC. needs quality sewing machine operators. Prefer 2 to 5 years experience in sewing industry on piece rate. If interested apply at Samson Plant, Waynesboro, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

TROY STATE UNIVERSITY Academic Advisor needed in Augusta, GA. Full time Academic Advisor needed beginning April 15, 2004. Bachelor's degree in Education required and Masters degree preferred. Experience working in student services for a college a plus. This is a full time position with benefits. Salary is \$20,500 per year. If interested in the above position email frankenj@troyst.edu or fax to 706-210-3803 or mail to Troy State University, C/O Dr. James Franken, 2743 Perimeter Parkway, Suite 201, Augusta, GA 30909. Troy State University is an AA/EEO employer and encourages applications from individuals with disabilities, females, African Americans, and other minorities."

290 Misc. Notices

BREWERIANA SHOW Saturday, March 27, 8 a.m. - 2 p.m., Belair Conference Center, I-20, Exit 194. Brewery collectibles, vintage beer cans, soda bottles. Admission \$2. Call 706-855-6397.

300 Help Wanted

AUGUSTA GREENJACKETS SUMMER JOBS Will be hiring for the following positions for the upcoming 2004 season: Concessions, waitress, and usher. Apply in person Monday - Friday, 1 - 5 p.m. only at business office Lake Olmstead Stadium at Lake Olmstead Stadium.

BRICK MASON NEEDED Must have valid driver's license and own transportation. Must be dependable. Call 478-982-2559 leave message.

CNA'S NEEDED Full time and part time. All shifts. Apply at Westwood Nursing Center, 101 Stockyard Road, Statesboro, GA.

CSRA'S #1 AUTO DEALERSHIP We will train you to make an excellent living in a second career. Vacation and benefits package. Apply in person Saturn of Augusta.

DRIVER NEEDED CDL, good MVR, two years experience, home nights and weekends. Call Barbara Cochran 478-982-5524 or 706-360-1369.

EARN EXTRA MONEY in your spare time. Everybody knows someone who wants a car. I'll pay you to tell me who it is. 706-786-1964, Dan.

LADIES TO PICK STRAWBERRIES Must be able to work Monday thru Saturday, April and May. Call for interview. The Strawberry Patch, 706-554-6013.

MOBILE HOME SET UP PERSON NEEDED Full time. Must have experience and driver's license, must be reliable. Investment Housing Statesboro, 912-681-6713.

TRUCK DRIVER NEEDED Clean MVR, two years experience container hauling. Call Floyd Charch 478-982-9100 or 706-214-0309.

MODELS ACTORS

For Magazine Illustrations, Articles & Editorials ALL SHAPES-SIZES-AGES (5&UP) Ordinary & Extraordinary Part-Time Earn Up To \$125/Mr.

APPLY IN PERSON
Holiday Inn Meeting Room
2155 Gordon Hwy.,
Augusta, GA
Monday, March 22nd
4:00 PM or 7:00 PM

ASK ABOUT GUARANTEED JOB OFFERS & 1 YEAR CONTRACT NO CALLS - UNDER 19 W/PARENT

NOT A SCHOOL OR AGENCY

300 Help Wanted

WANTED LPN CHARGE NURSES Must be patient care oriented, supervisory skills a must, 60 bed facility, low patient to nurse ration. Benefit package included, employer assisted insurance, 20 PTO days per year and more. 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. and 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. New pay scale per years of experience. Call 912-764-6005 or come by and apply at 101 Stockyard Road, Statesboro, GA.

WEEKEND RN SUPERVISOR Please contact Barbara Sapp, DON at Glendale Nursing Home 478-252-5254.

310 Work Wanted

LOOKING FOR WORK! Ethelene Young will sit with elderly. Day or night. 478-982-5165.

320 Wanted to Buy

I BUY ESTATES, ANTIQUES AND COLLECTIBLES Call 706-554-7576 or 554-7242, Greg.

Spring Sale

VINYL SIDING • VINYL WINDOWS

BUTLER BUILDING

706-836-5533

Special Savings For Active/Retired Military & Civil Servants
209 Wheeler Executive Center, Augusta

WRIGHT'S Shoe Shine & Parlor

Attention Privates Complete Shine Kit \$29.95 W/Instructions

Stop in one of our stores and buy a big tub of Angelus Wax or maybe a Shoe Shine Kit.

Make It Wright!

796-2934

29606 Barnes Avenue (Across from Anthony's Pizza & Blimpie)
Visit us on the web! www.wrightshoerepair.com

M-F • 10-7
Sat. 9-5
796-2934

If You DRINK That's Your Business If You Want To QUIT That's Ours

ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS

860-8331

FREE SWAP & SHOP ADS MUST BE TYPED OR NEATLY PRINTED ON THIS FORM OR A CLEAR PHOTOCOPY OF THIS FORM!

Free Swap & Shop Ads are available at no charge to military, retired military, and Fort Gordon civilian employees. If you qualify, deliver this completed form to Building 29801 Nelson Hall Forms may also be mailed to Public Affairs Attention Signal Classifieds, Fort Gordon GA 30905, or faxed to 706-554-2437.

DO NOT WRITE MORE THAN ONE AD PER FORM!

For submitting more than one ad you may secure additional copies of The Signal or make clear photocopies of this form.

ONE WORD PER LINE, TYPE OR PRINT NEATLY
Classification _____

Home Phone Only _____

INFORMATION BELOW FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY.
BE SURE TO INCLUDE HOME PHONE NUMBER, ETC. ON LINES ABOVE.

NAME, RANK _____
UNIT OR ADDRESS _____
CITY _____ STATE _____
ZIP _____ DUTY PHONE _____

400 Real Estate Notice

All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, or national origin, or an intention to make such preference, limitation or discrimination. The Swap & Shop will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the law. Readers will thus be informed that all dwellings advertised in The Swap & Shop are available on an equal opportunity basis.

402 Lots & Land

21.55 ACRES HIGHWAY 88 at Hopson Mill Road, Richmond County south of Blythe. Beautiful home site, heavily wooded and pasture. Restricted to doublewide and houses. PRICE REDUCED TO \$58,000. Other similar tracts available. Call 706-541-0018 or 481-1658.

1/2 ACRE LOTS River Road. \$7,000 cash. Power, water and septic. 706-790-6637.

109 ACRES NORTHEAST JENKINS COUNTY 59 acres great Bermuda grass, 16 acres cultivated, 6 acres planted pines, beautiful tract, \$163,500. Shivers Real Estate, 706-833-9114 or 706-833-9115, www.GeorgiaLand.com

BURKE COUNTY 10.5 ACRES on Briar Creek, Keysville area, beautiful woods, high and dry, road frontage, \$45,000, owner is agent. Shivers Real Estate, 706-833-9114 or 833-9115, www.GeorgiaLand.com

EIGHT ACRES North Burke County, Springhill Estates, cutover woodland, \$23,000. Shivers Real Estate, 706-833-9114 or 9115, www.GeorgiaLand.com.

ESTATE AUCTION To settle the Estate of the late Lott W. Bishop. In the same family for 85 years. Saturday, April 3, 10 a.m., 1,400 acres in Emanuel County. Four properties offered divided, in combinations or as a whole. Heavily timbered, creeks, ponds, paved road frontage, hunting cabin, homesites. 8 0 0 - 8 4 1 - 9 4 0 0 . www.hudsonmarsh.com (gal 274).

FOR ALL YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS call Debbie or Mary, 706-554-0340. www.maryyellonrealty.com

GOOD INVESTMENT Seven lots, Hancock Landing and River Road, Burke County. One to five acres, total 12.5 acres. \$35,000 cash buys all. 706-790-6837.

I BUY HOUSES AND LAND No realtors. 706-466-3674, ask for Greg.

LOTS FOR SALE in Millen city limits with city water and sewage. \$200 down, \$135 monthly. 706-833-1385 or 840-2548.

LOTS FOR SALE IN MIDVILLE \$500 down, \$105 monthly payment. Please call 706-833-1385.

MOBILE HOME LOTS located on Poole-Melton, Springhill Church Roads. No credit, owner financing. 706-863-7131.

MOBILE HOME LOTS in Burke and Jenkins Counties. Owner financing available. 706-210-0448.

MOBILE HOME LOTS Just outside of Waynesboro. \$500 down, \$118 monthly payments. 706-210-0448.

RICHMOND/BURKE COUNTY 1 to 5 acre mobile home lots. \$500 down. Some with well and septic. Owner financing. 706-592-2990, pager 706-667-3975.

THREE ACRES BURKE COUNTY Blount's Chapel Road at Highway 305 north of Vidette. \$11,700. Owner financing, \$500 down at 10% for 20 years, \$108 month. Other tracts available. Call 706-541-0018.

405 Homes For Sale

2002 BEAUTIFUL BRICK HOME Three bedrooms, two baths, vaulted ceiling, garage, covered patio, security system, in ground sprinkler system, five minutes from Fort Gordon. Only \$105,000. Call Jason 706-560-6221.

APPROXIMATELY 2,000 SQUARE FEET Three bedrooms, two full baths, laundry room, living room, dining room, kitchen, stove and refrigerator stay. Must see to appreciate. 706-466-3331.

ATTENTION GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES If you are a military veteran or on active duty, let me show you how to use your VA benefits to buy a house with no money down. Use your BAH to pay your mortgage. Civil service employees: You can buy a home with as little as 3 percent down. Need down payment assistance? Call me, Gayla Moore, Meybohm Realty. 706-790-5828.

COLUMBIA COUNTY 1,732 square feet, four bedrooms, two baths, great room, vaulted ceiling, spacious kitchen with large dining area, new stove, pantry, new berber carpet, freshly painted interior/exterior. Large fenced back yard with deck. Belgrade Subdivision. \$101,500. 706-364-4584.

DEARING FOR SALE BY OWNER Three bedrooms, two baths, new wood floors and Berber carpet, fireplace with gas logs, screened porch with patio, natural gas grill, work shop, entertainment area, child's play house, 14 miles from Fort Gordon. Owner relocating. \$92,500. 706-556-6189.

FOR ALL YOUR REAL ESTATE NEEDS call Debbie or Mary, 706-554-0340. www.maryyellonrealty.com

405 Homes For Sale

FOUR BEDROOMS Two full baths, large kitchen, living room, large refrigerator, new dishwasher, huge walkin closet, new roof, fenced yard, fresh paint, security system, playground, .57 acres. \$64,900. 3% closing cost paid by seller. 706-771-0416.

FREE HOME BUYER SEMINAR Saturday, March 20, 10:30 a.m. at Meybohm Realtors, 646 N. Belair Road, Evans. Go to augustadreamhome.com or call 706-306-4833. Snack and prizes.

I BUY HOUSES AND LAND No realtors. 706-466-3674, ask for Greg.

MILLEN COUNTRY HOME FOR SALE 1815 Highway 23, 1.5 acres, large yard. Three bedrooms, one bath, large kitchen, den with fireplace with insert, separate outside two carport/shed with outside full bath. Great for storage or shop. \$58,000. 478-982-3396.

MILLEN HOME FOR SALE 913 Progress Place. Large living room with fireplace and eat in kitchen, computer room, three bedrooms, two baths, two car garage. Located in great neighborhood. 478-982-3274.

TIMBERWOOD SUBDIVISION Three bedrooms, two baths, 2,400 square feet. \$139,000. 706-437-8899.

WHEN YOU FIND YOUR DREAM HOME Get your dream loan at Fort Gordon Credit Union. 706-793-0012.

415 Mobile Homes For Sale

28X56 MOBILE HOME and three acres. Shingle roof, vinyl siding, fireplace, utility house, pool, and decks. One mile from city limits. 1-912-682-1740 or 478-982-5433.

2000 FLEETWOOD 28X80 MANUFACTURED HOME Four bedrooms, two baths, located on 4.22 acres of land in quiet subdivision in Jenkins County off Highway 25 half way between Millen and Statesboro. Ready to move into. Only \$65,000 or monthly payments approximately \$445 (wac) call 912-681-6713.

14X70 FLEETWOOD Two bedrooms, two baths, fireplace, new air. Burke County. \$5,000. 706-592-2408.

12X65 MOBILE HOME FOR SALE Parked on one acre lot. Five minutes to Fort Gordon Gate 5. Completely furnished. Completely private. Chain link four feet high, private entrance. Ready to move in. Call any time 706-248-0001 or 793-1354.

NEW AND USED Applications take by phone. Some purchases can be based on income. 912-863-4549. 912-564-7968 after hours. Ask for Jesse.

THREE BEDROOM MOBILE HOME Owner financing available. \$2,000 down. 912-687-5300.

425 Apartments For Rent

AUGUSTA AUMOND VILLA Two bedrooms, one and one half baths, 1,050 square feet. Fully equipped kitchen, carpet, drapes and blinds. Washer/dryer connection, with washer/dryer available. Large pool, Augusta's finest location, two minutes to golf course, tennis court and shopping center. 706-733-3823.

LOCATED 10 MINUTES FROM FORT GORDON Military special, \$100 off first and second month's rent. 0 Security deposit. Two bedrooms, one bath, living room, dining room, kitchen and laundry room with washer/dryer connection. 706-793-9185.

427 Commercial Rentals

COMMERCIAL BUILDING IN DOWNTOWN WAYNESBORO for rent. Approximately 4,000 square feet, fronting on Liberty Street. 706-554-9903 or 706-551-1783.

FOR RENT Former St. Joseph's Home Health Care office area in the Millen Loan and Finance Corp. building. Office has 25x45 lobby area with counter and four smaller 15x20 rooms. Call 478-982-5644.

FOR RENT: Area at rear of Millen Loan and Finance Corporation Building, measuring approximately 50 feet by 45 feet. Space is carpeted and has central heat and air. Suitable to use as one large open exercise room, as office space, or as retail area. Call 478-982-5644.

435 Homes For Rent

BRICK RANCH three bedrooms, two baths, new carpet and paint, near Augusta Mall and post. Pets okay. Excellent schools, public transportation. 404-464-1721, 678-560-1097 or 706-796-9473. Available May 4.

HOME FOR RENT Three bedrooms, two baths, large fenced yard, screened porch, near Fort off Belair Road. Columbia County schools. \$800 month, plus deposit. 706-267-9181.

KEYSVILLE Two bedrooms, one bath, central air, partially furnished, fenced yard. \$400 month, \$400 deposit. 706-547-3661.

LIKE NEW HOME Excellent location, three bedrooms, living room, dining room, kitchen, carport. Credit check required. \$600 month. 706-554-6974.

MILLEN COUNTRY HOME Three bedrooms, one bath, large kitchen, large den with fireplace, huge yard (2 acres) with large shed, two carports and full outside bathroom. Great for shop or workshop. Serious responsible inquiries only. \$475 mont, plus deposit. Need references. 478-982-3396.

435 Homes For Rent

NICE CLEAN TWO BEDROOM on two acres, 585 Longhorn Road, Big Bend area. \$400 month. No children. 706-554-7020.

THREE SPACIOUS BEDROOMS Two full baths, formal living, den with fireplace, large eat-in kitchen, large completely fenced back yard in a quiet cul-de-sac. Single car garage, stove, refrigerator, dishwasher and garbage disposal. \$750 month. Minutes from Gate 5. Call HP 706-798-5215, SFC Stover WP 706-791-4326, or Anastasia 706-798-2424.

440 Mobile Homes For Rent

CLEAN, NEW TWO BEDROOM 14x65 mobile homes, fully furnished, washer, dryer, central heat and air, only 3.5 miles from Gate 5. No Dogs. No Lease. \$400 per month plus deposit. Less expensive models also. 706-798-0495.

COLUMBIA COUNTY FAMILY PARK One and two bedrooms, near Fort, \$195 to \$335. No Pets. 706-556-6943.

FURNISHED TWO BEDROOM 2.25 miles to Fort. Large private lot with patio and awning. Quiet area. \$275 month. No pets. 706-863-0109.

GROVETOWN, COLUMBIA COUNTY Small furnished two bedroom mobile home for rent. Not in park. Fenced, No pets. Gas and electric. \$280 month, plus \$250 deposit. 706-863-8665.

MOBILE HOME RENTALS Two and three bedrooms, Waynesboro and Augusta. \$275 to \$400. 706-790-6837.

MOBILE HOMES FOR RENT \$300 month, plus \$300 deposit, no pets. For more information call 706-794-0431

NICE SINGLEWIDE MOBILE HOME on 2.5 acre lot in Big Bend area. Ideal for couple. Washer, dryer and refrigerator included. References required. \$375 rent, plus deposit. 706-554-6013.

ONE THREE BEDROOM mobile home for rent on Hilltop Road, Millen. 478-982-4203.

RICHMOND COUNTY \$275 PER MONTH, Two bedrooms, furnished, near Fort. 863-3333.

TWO BEDROOMS Two baths, all appliances, fenced back yard, fireplace, fishing rights, private lot, two miles from Gate 5, near schools. No inside pets. \$400 month, \$300 deposit. 706-798-9664.

TWO BEDROOM MOBILE HOME 1.5 miles from Gate 5. \$350 plus deposit. 706-793-1676.

445 Mobile Home Lots

MOBILE HOME LOTS FOR RENT \$100 month, \$100 deposit. Waynesboro area. 770-577-6407.

447 Rooms

ATTENTION OBC, ANCOG STUDENTS Room for rent, minutes from Gate 5 in Pepperidge. \$350 month plus half utilities. 706-798-8434 or 951-8524.

ATTENTION MILITARY PERSONNEL Room for rent, one mile from Gate 5, along Tobacco Road. \$300 month or \$100 weekly. All utilities included. 706-877-9444.

ROOMS FOR RENT \$125 and \$175. Utilities included, cable, phone, washer and dryer. Next to shopping centers, Grovetown. 706-868-0632 or 651-0354.

450 Vacation Rentals

CONDO AT HILTON HEAD Sleeps four, ocean view. Call Dean Tankersley, 706-860-4372 or 706-831-4372.

455 Miscellaneous Rentals

HOUSE TO SHARE off Columbia Road. \$350 plus half utilities. Private bath. 706-855-6439.

470 Appliances

FULL SIZE WATER COOLER/DISPENSER Made by Cordley. Good condition. \$20. 803-442-4404.

MICROWAVE Good condition. \$20. 706-771-7648.

490 Auctions

ABSOLUTE ESTATE AUCTION Mrs. Beatrice Hirley, 2068 Crawford Road, Guyton, GA. From Highway 21 go west on Highway 30 9.8 miles to Crawford Road, turn left to sale site. From Highway 17 go East on Highway 30, 3 miles to Crawford Road, turn right at sale site (by South Effingham School), watch for signs. Saturday, March 20, 10 a.m. Two oak parlor tables, old wooden boxes, cotton scale with peas, wash pot, old meat grinder, anvil, ornate iron bed, old handmade quilts, two bushhogs 4' and 6', crosscut saw, corn sheller on box, household furnishings, much more. 10% buyers premium. Sylvania Auction Company, GAL 548. 912-863-7683.

520 Computers

WINDOWS 95 CD DRIVE Floppy drive, zip drive and monitor, \$75. 706-592-9314.

530 Farm Equipment

1974 FORD F500 BOX DUMP TRUCK \$2,500 or best offer. 706-554-4365.

540 Furniture

85" SOFA with matching swivel/rocker. Earth toned plaid. Excellent condition. \$300 both. 706-554-4902.

BED: KING SIZE plush mattress set. Brand new in plastic. \$175. 706-533-0544.

BED: QUEEN SIZE pillowtop mattress set. New in plastic. \$150. 706-533-0544.

BEDROOM SUITE Seven piece cherry with full mattress set. \$399. Queen size \$50 extra. 706-798-9978.

BLACK FUTON AND DESK \$100. Good shape. 706-772-5771.

COUCH WITH TWO RECLINERS plus love seat. Background light brown with rust and cream. 706-863-8704.

MATTRESS AND BOX SPRING King size. Very good condition. \$75. Twin size mattress and box spring, \$40. 706-793-8777.

WE RENT DOLLIES AND CARPET CLEANERS Also, sell wood heaters, gas heaters and kerosene heaters. Wilson Hardware, 611 Cotton Avenue, Millen, GA. 912-982-1492.

560 Golf Equipment

LEFT HANDED GOLF CLUBS with bag. \$75. Plus extra clubs. Negotiable. 706-592-9314.

610 Pets & Animals

GROOMING BY APPOINTMENT! BURKE COUNTY ANIMAL HOSPITAL 554-3111

PETS ARE PEOPLE TOO! Award winning pet care in your home. Call 706-560-0002.

PITBULL TERRIER ADBA REGISTERED Five females, three weeks old. Buckskin with black mask and tab, Yellow/John/Tab bloodline. Parents on site. \$600. 706-793-4051.

TWO GERMAN SHEPHERDS Seven years old. Male and female. Female has been spayed. \$100 for both. 706-551-0445.

620 Sporting Goods/Firearms

ROWING AND BICYCLE MACHINE Good condition. Gives a great upper body workout. \$20. 706-442-4404.

640 TV's, VCR's, Video

ZENITH 27" CONSOLE COLOR TV and Zenith VCR. Both very good condition. Together \$30 or will sell individually. 706-855-7152.

BEST DEAL IN TOWN

• Furnished Studios • Attic Storage • Laundry on Property • Private Entrance

Partial Furnished \$375

Furnished - \$399

1&2 BR \$425-\$535

\$0 Down For Military Move-In Same Day

706-796-8001 FOREST RIDGE APARTMENTS

Open House

Breckenridge - Mon-Sat. - 8:30-6; Sun. 1-6 \$113,900 - \$175,900
 Cambridge - Mon-Sat. 8:30-6; Sun. 1-6 \$119,900 - \$175,900
 Pepperidge - Sun. 1-6 \$83,900 - \$107,900
 Pepperidge Pointe - Sat-Sun. 1-6 \$110,900 - \$147,900
 Pinehurst - Sat. & Sun. 1-6 \$85,900 - \$115,900
 Walton Hills • Sun. 1-6 \$95,900 - \$140,900

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VA-FHA CONV. 100% FINANCING IF YOU QUALIFY

Save A Little Green!

All Newly Renovated

1 BR 850 Sq.Ft. - \$410
2 BR 950 Sq.Ft. - \$515
3 BR 1050 Sq.Ft. - \$600
3 BR - \$675 W/D Provided

- Playground • Pool
- Washer/Dryer Hookups
- Digital Internet Ready
- Military Clause • No Pets

Only 10 Minutes From Fort Gordon.
 Convenient to shopping, dining & entertainment
 Mon-Fri. 8:30-5:30 • Sat. 10-4 • Sun. 1-5 By Appointment Only

High Point CROSSING
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The Signal



Financial Viewpoint



Auto Financing Just Got Easier

Why are people turning to getting a car loan online?

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"It makes the process of buying a car so much easier when you go to the dealership with your money in hand"

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New Meaning to Field Hospital Training

Pvt. Armando Monroig
Signal Staff

Even those in medical field military occupational specialties have to practice Soldier training.

And that's what several Soldiers did during intense situational training exercises Feb. 29 through March 12 in a training area across from the medical readiness training site.

Soldiers from Redstone Arsenal, Ala.; Fort Campbell, Ky.; Fort Stewart, Ga.; and Fort Bragg, N.C., came to Fort Gordon to participate in the STX with training developed from the lessons learned during Operations Iraqi and Enduring Freedom.

Training focused on three areas: patient decontamination, convoy operations and force protection.

On the final day of the STX Soldiers had different scenarios thrown at them and were expected to react appropriately.

First, the Soldiers participated in a convoy movement or quick reactionary force team. Soldiers set up security for the patient decontamination team while they moved to their location in a five-ton truck.

While moving to set up, the convoy encountered simulated enemy fire from the opposing force and had to react. They did so by firing back and regrouping their troops to a safer location.

Once enemy fire had been suppressed, Soldiers unloaded equipment from the five-ton and prepared a decontamination zone. They prepared various stations they would use to decon-

taminate casualties of a chemical or biological attack.

Once the stations were set up, Soldiers donned Mission Oriented Protective Posture level 4 which includes the Soldiers wearing their overgarment, boots, gloves and protective mask.

Spc. Scott Tyler, from Fort Eustis, Va., helped set up one of the stations at the decontamination site.

"This is the (emergency medical technician) triage site where patients get categorized into severity of injuries," he said.

The Soldiers who set up the zone treated the casualties and their individual cases as if it were a real-life case. All the while, other members of the convoy pulled security.

Spc. Peggy Morales, cadre member, was one of the instructors for the training.

"They did well. They were eager to learn. Willing to participate in the training," she said. "They're getting a lot of training that they normally wouldn't get."

Morales said this is the first time training involving these three aspects has been done. She said normally they just set up a field hospital and the Soldiers perform their medical duties as if they were in a normal hospital.

Despite the change in training, she said she's received nothing but positive feedback from the participants.

"It's been very good," said Capt. Renee Tolbert, a critical care nurse for the 249th. "It's been really organized. They gave us some good training we've



Photos by Pvt. Armando Monroig

A Soldier at one of the guard shacks keeps an eye on a crowd of 'anti-American protesters' during the 249th General Hospital situational training exercise on post.

never had before."

She's glad she received this training because it will prepare her in case of deployment.

"It's very important even as a medical professional in the Army, because they're going to shoot at us just like any other Soldier," said Tolbert.

Throughout the course of the day, Soldiers playing the role of 'aggressors' tested the Soldiers positioned in the

guard shacks.

They taunted the Soldiers, making comments and kicking the concertina wire forcing the Soldiers to practice their rules of engagement.

There were some setbacks though. On a couple of occasions aggressors 'killed' some of the Soldiers from the 249th.

In one instance after the aggressors distracted the Soldiers at the guard shack, a vehicle drove by and launched a simulated rocket propelled grenade attack, leaving members of the guard shack surprised – and dead.

Despite the setbacks, there were some successful

moments as well.

During an attack, aggressors breached the concertina wire. They ran wild inside the training site creating chaos, but Soldiers reacted quickly, caught the aggressors and detained them.

From there, injured 'prisoners of war' were taken inside the medical tent and treated by doctors.

Capt. Ron Gesaman, a 249th nurse, said the group performed well, from moving with the convoy to taking care of the casualties when they came in, an all-around good effort.

"The docs, nurses and medics have been so motivated to come out here and

do this kind of training instead of just being in the hospital," he said.

He said they handled every situation they were given well.

"They did outstanding, they really did," said Gesaman.

Following the final scenario, Soldiers got together for an after action report and then returned to the training site.

"Our intent is to train as realistic as possible," said 1st Lt. Cicely Dent, 249th public affairs officer. "That's what we focus on: doing training that's going to better equip us to do what we have to do on the battlefield."



A Soldier detains one of the 'aggressors' who breached security at the gate.



A blister agent casualty is treated at the 249th decontamination zone.



A Soldier stands next to a drop zone marker during a convoy exercise.



Soldiers remove contaminated clothing from a chemical attack victim.



Members of the 249th are on the move as part of a quick reactionary force that will set up a decontamination zone to treat casualties of chemical or biological attacks.