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The Signal



Friday, April 9, 2004

Published for the Department of Defense and the Fort Gordon community

Vol. 24, No. 13

News UPDATE

AFCEA lunch

The Augusta-Fort Gordon Chapter of AFCEA's membership luncheon is 11:30 a.m. **Monday** at the Gordon Club.

Guest speaker is Brig. Gen. Eric Schoemaker, Southeast Regional Medical Command and Eisenhower Army Medical Center commander.

Tickets cost \$10 for members, \$11 for non-members, and must be purchased by April 6.

Call Robbe Ostby at 793-3500 for information or to charge tickets by phone.

Month of the military child

The month of the military child celebration is 10 a.m.-2 p.m. **April 17** at the Youth Services Activity field.

Activities include face painting, arts and crafts, horseback riding, a rock climbing wall and more. All activities are free. For information, call 791-6500.

April 23 is Military Day from 10-11:30 a.m. featuring military vehicles and a fire truck display in the parking lot of the CDC.

Tax preparation

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

The center is open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m., through **Monday**, and is located at the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, Building 29718, Room 118.

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

OSC meets

The Fort Gordon Officers' Spouses Club will meet at 6:30 p.m. **Tuesday** at the Gordon Club.

The Thrift Shop will sponsor a fashion show. RSVP by **Tuesday** by calling Connie at 869-8231 or Erin at 771-5303.

Green to gold

There is an ROTC Green to Gold briefing at 1 p.m. **Monday** in Building 21606. For information call Jerry Cockrell at 791-2000.

Volunteer luncheon

The Fort Gordon Volunteer luncheon will be **April 20** from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the North Grand Ballroom of the Gordon Club.

The event will recognize the installation's top 100 volunteers. The volunteers will be presented the Presidential Volunteer Service Award.

For more information, contact Lynn Harshmann, installation volunteer coordinator, at 791-3579.



Photo by Pvt. Armando Monroig

Seeing stars

Training and Doctrine Command Commander Gen. Kevin P. Byrnes received updates from Brig. Gen. Jan Hicks and her command on Signal Center issues and advancements in training, information technology and communications **Monday**. He lunched with Sgt. Audie Murphy Club (right) members and visited the National Science Center's Fort Discovery (above), a Fort Gordon and Army partner.



Photo by Spc. Sam Smith

Bush says coalition, Iraqi must remain firm

Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

The closer the return of sovereignty comes in Iraq, the more enemies of democracy will challenge the coalition, President Bush said Tuesday in Charlotte, N.C.

The president said there is no move to change the date for return of sovereignty to an interim Iraqi government. The June 30 date remains firm, Bush said.

The president said the efforts of anti-coalition Shia cleric Muqtada al-Sadr to derail the move to democracy is typical of the type of challenges the coalition will face as June 30 approaches. "(Sadr) is one person who's deciding that rather than allow democracy to flourish, he's going to exercise force," Bush said during a media availability. "And we just can't let it stand."

An Iraqi judge issued an arrest warrant for Sadr in con-

nection with the death of Shia cleric Ayatollah As Seyed Al-Majid al-Khoei last year. Sadr and his followers are trying to grab power by force, Bush said. "I think throughout this period there's going to be tests," the president said. "There were tests in Fallujah. And the desire for those who do not want there to be a free and democratic Iraq is to shake our will through acts of violence and terror."

The terrorists also are targeting coalition allies and the Iraqi people, Bush said, and all must remain firm. "And we've got to stay the course and we will stay the course," he said. "The message to the Iraqi citizens is they don't have to fear that America will turn and run. And that's an important message for them to hear. If they think that we're not sincere about staying the course, many people will not continue to take the risk toward freedom and democracy."

Installation honors top 100 volunteers April 20

Denise Allen
Signal staff

Every Monday, a group of ladies meets in Bicentennial Chapel to make corsages for patients at Eisenhower Army Medical Center, while across post at the Connelly Clinic, Nancy Moore pulls records and does clerical work.

There are more than 3,400 volunteers that help make Fort Gordon and the Augusta community run smoother, according to Lynn Harshman, installation volunteer coordinator.

If the services volunteers performed were contracted out, it would cost more than \$6 million, she said.

April 18-24 is National Volunteer Week, and on April 20, Fort Gordon will recognize the top 100 volunteers as determined by the programs in which they serve, Harshman said.

Volunteers work in 76 different program areas and in a variety of places at Fort Gordon. They work at the unit level assisting soldiers through family readiness groups; they work in the hospital through the American Red Cross; they work at the Hilltop Stables on the weekends; and they work in programs such as Better Opportunities for Single Service members.

For more than 30 years, the flower ladies have brought a smile to the faces of patients at Eisenhower.

In the early days, they would take the flowers from the altars in the various chapels to make corsages; now, they get dozens of

carnations from a flower wholesaler, dress them up in tulle and ribbon and attach an inspirational message before delivering them, according to Ruby Campbell, who has been volunteering since 1995. "It's a lot of fun to go in and see the patients," she said.

Nell Wilson is an original

member of the group.

The patients seem to enjoy the flowers; she remembered one young female soldier in particular.

"She was so homesick, and she hugged me," she said.

Another volunteer is Nancy Moore, who was named Fort Gordon's volun-

teer of the year in 2000.

"She has a big heart," said Harshman.

Moore works at the clinic three days a week, plus helps with the Officers' Wives' Club and Enlisted Wives' Club's scholarship programs. She also helps with Christmas House's Angel Tree program and Fort Gordon's Dinner

Theater.

A retired Department of Defense schoolteacher, Moore met her husband in Germany. He was transferred to the old military police school at Fort Gordon. She has been a widow for 27 years.

See *Volunteers*, page 3



Augusta springtime means ... the Masters!

Like defending 2003 Masters champion Mike Weir, seen here practicing this week on Augusta National's lush fairways while preparing to defend his title, Fort Gordon and the rest of the Central Savannah River Area look forward to enjoying another Masters golf tournament. Whether lucky enough to have practice round tickets, a pass to the four-day tournament itself, or just to watch the action on television, the Masters evokes awe for its unmatched scenic beauty, envy for the quality of play of those vying for the coveted green jacket, or pride in the fact this world-renowned sporting event is happening right here in Augusta. Look for more coverage of the 2004 Masters Tournament in next week's edition of the Fort Gordon Signal.

NETCOMs senior Signal CWO praises Afghanistan communications team

Staff Sgt. Kelly McCargo

About 140 years ago the U.S. Army's standard means of communication was a Soldier with a set of wig-wag flags but with the advent of the vacuum tube, radio waves streamlined the field of communication, despite the earlier models' bulk, limited effective range, and lengthy installation time.

The military continually transforms its communication capabilities.

In 1907, there was the three-kilowatt Fixed Radio Station, or Signal Corps Radio-40, which has since been replaced by tactical telephones with the ability to provide worldwide connectivity, and real time video teleconferencing directly from the battle field.

The U.S. Military is now one of the foremost communication pioneers throughout the world.

Another transformation is happening between the tactical signal Soldiers, rotating out and being replaced by Department of Defense civilians and contractors who are installing, operating, and maintaining commercial communications systems.

Yet the mainstay of signal communication always has and will be the signalmen and their civilian counterparts, according to Chief Warrant Officer 5 Charlie Broach, Network Enterprising Technology Command, G-3, representative on the ground from Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

"There is no formal training for communications commercialization, you only get this training from being here on the ground—from the School of Hard Knocks and graduation is a (expletive)—I mean it's tough!" Broach said.

"It comes down to the installation team comprised of the Army's cable systems installer-maintainer, or better known as 'the Cable Dog' or their civilian counterpart the professional installer.

"These are the primary people on the ground, that are going to make it happen," he said.

"They don't call them Cable Dogs until they have been tested, under real world conditions, and here they are tested to their max. Very few will ever earn the title 'Big Dawg' and to know one—you are honored," he said.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Kelly McCargo

Chief Warrant Officer 5 Charlie Broach (left) considers Capt. Kevin Garfield (right), Kabul DOIM, "a role model for military and civilians working relations." In the school of hard knocks DoD civilians, Senior NCOs and contractors make up the instructors and deployments, like Afghanistan, make up the classroom.

Their civilian counterparts are for the most part retired senior NCOs or prior military who further the cable dog's education.

"You can buy all the sophisticated communication equipment out there, but you're going to need a good cable dog to install it," he said. "The need for better trained and experienced installers is now more crucial than ever.

"Fort Gordon's Advanced Individual Training school provides the basic skill needed in a tactical environment but the Basic Installers' Course (BIC) can provide the advanced training required over here," he said. "BIC can make the difference from night and day in the time required for commercialization."

Without BIC training, senior NCOs and civilian installers have to teach the new cable dog as they move throughout the different phases required to complete the job.

"It is difficult to stay on schedule when changes occur that force a work stoppage due to soldier requirements elsewhere," he said. "We train our Soldiers for a tactical field setting, but now we are inside blown-out buildings that have been refurbished or Sea-Land Containers that have been modified."

They may have to cut through 8" thick cement or brick walls, with their body armor on and an M-16 rifle strapped across their backs,

in temperatures that reach well over 120-degrees by midday, to run fiber or CATV cable, which Broach said, is not taught at any school—you only get that by having "boots on the ground."

"Train in peace, to win in war" is the Army's battle focused doctrine, and several years of peace suddenly came to a halt September 11.

The 11th Signal Brigade Soldiers from Fort Huachuca were responsible for providing the first worldwide tactical communications into Central Command Theater to the battlefield commander.

In Iraq they are joined, and in some places replaced, by elements of the 93rd Signal Brigade from Fort Gordon.

"The signal battalions came in with their tactical signal systems to give the commander on the ground what he needed to be successful, now a joint military and civilian commercialization team is going to take that communication foundation and commercialize it, so the tactical unit can take their (tactical) equipment home with the Soldiers without an interruption to the service," Broach said.

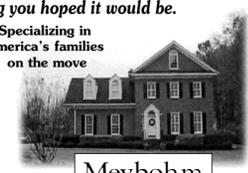
"Once they return home they'll get re-outfitted, retrained ... and possibly redeployed," he said.

"Sadly enough, we're losing a lot of those experienced young Soldiers and signal warrant officers. I always advise my senior leaders that an experienced warrant officer is like an American Express Card—you

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Fort Gordon's weekly newspaper

No 'plus-up' for Iraq troop levels

Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

U.S. Central Command officials are studying all aspects of the recent surge of violence in Iraq, and believe they are prepared to counter it. The command has not requested any additional forces for operations in Iraq.

A senior command official, speaking on background, discussed the violence in Iraq and said the command is concerned about the threat that Muqtada al-Sadr's militia, the Mahdi Army, poses.

Iraq is calmer, but the command again is studying the situation in the country. "We are always in the business of planning, and we always plan worst-case scenarios," he said. "And clearly if this thing got out of control over there, we would have to start looking at the number of forces that we have in theater and whether they were adequate to meet our needs."

The official pointed out that all believe there are enough American forces in Iraq to handle the situation now. "In fact, we have more forces right now in Iraq than we had ... three or four months ago," he said. Troops are rotating into Iraq and redeploying out. There are about 134,000 U.S. service members in the country, compared to 120,000 in November.

The official also said coalition forces in Iraq are beginning operations in Fallujah — a city of 300,000 that was a hotbed of support for the former regime. Five U.S. soldiers were killed north of the city and four U.S. security specialists were killed and mutilated March 31.

"We are currently conducting operations in Fallujah," the

official said. Forces established a cordon around the city to monitor traffic going in and out and "we are beginning operations to seek out those that committed the tragic acts last week."

The violence incited by Muqtada al-Sadr and carried out by his Mahdi Army are a more immediate concern to Central Command. The official called Sadr a "minor cleric" who is trading on a famous family name. He is related to two grand ayatollahs.

Violence erupted during a Sadr-sponsored demonstration in Najaf on Sunday, along with violence in Baghdad and Nasiriyah. In Baghdad, his followers took over some Iraqi police stations, and the 1st Armored Division lost eight soldiers taking them back.

The official said coalition forces in Iraq will go after the illegal militias. "We need to deliberately go after the militia folks that are conducting these sorts of attacks and de-arm them and take them apart, and make sure that it is clearly understood that they are illegal and they are doing things that are outside the system of justice in Iraq," he said.

Sadr's Mahdi Army is at the top of the list. "We are going to focus on disbanding them, de-arming them, and we'll do that deliberately and with a plan, so as not to just go in with ... all guns blazing and hurt or kill or damage those folks that live in the neighborhoods and are innocent bystanders to all of this," he said.

Coalition authorities announced that an Iraqi judge had issued a warrant for Sadr's arrest for his involvement in murdering Ayatollah As Seyed Al-Majid al-Khoei last year.

Volunteers

from page 1



Photo by Denise Allen

Every Monday, a group of ladies gathers at Bicentennial Chapel and prepares flowers to distribute to patients at Dwight David Eisenhower Army Medical Center.

She serves on the retiree council as a widow.

"My experience with Mrs. Moore is she has to be busy, actively employed the entire time," she's volunteering, Harshman said.

If she's on a board having a luncheon, Moore is there to help set up and help tear down.

When most people just want to take a break for a few minutes after an event has ended, Moore won't sit but will continue to work on, Harshman said.

Fort Gordon's active volunteer community has been selected as one of the national certifying organizations for the Points of Light Foundation's Presidential Volunteer Service Award.

Before this distinction,

Harshman would have to fill out paper work and mail it to the Points of Light Foundation and wait six to eight months before a volunteer's achievements could be recognized for the different levels of Presidential Volunteer Service Awards.

Now Harshman can certify volunteers immediately and enter their names and accomplishments into a database with the foundation.

While there are many volunteers, there is always room for more, Harshman said.

For more information on volunteer opportunities, call Harshman at Army Community Service at 791-3579.



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Photo by Spc. Felicia Thompson

All clean

Spc. Dustin Putney, a 297th Military Intelligence Battalion intelligence analyst cleans corrosion and soot from the barrel of his M16A2 rifle, March 25, at the 297th Military Intelligence Battalion.



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Photos by Spc. Sam Smith

SRT gets new training facility

Spc. Sam Smith
Staff Writer

Fort Gordon's Special Reaction Team trained for the first time last week in their new shoothouse.

The shoothouse is a five-room building used to train SRT Soldiers in entering and securing houses and other occupied buildings. The shoothouse walls are reinforced with steel which allows for safe weapons firing inside. The Fort Gordon team invited the SRT from Fort Stewart to try out their new house.

"(The Fort Stewart SRT doesn't) have the facilities we do," said Maj. Kendrick McCormick, Fort Gordon Provost Marshal. "It's a good cross-section of experience. It gets MPs with MPs, and they'll see each other again eventually."

According to a specialist from the Fort Stewart SRT, he gets a lot of good training whenever his team comes to Fort Gordon.

"These cats are pretty high-speed," he said, "(this training) is never to me than the Fort Gordon guys, so it

brings me back to my right mindset."

To assist the SRTs, instructors from Team One came to Fort Gordon to take the teams through the shoothouse and close encounter shooting drills. Team One is part of the International Association of Law Enforcement Firearms Instructors. Team One specializes in training special tactics teams across the world.

"(The SRTs) did very well," Team One Instructor Martin Labrusciano said. "A few need to work on practical procedure, but they met our expectations."

Before Fort Gordon got the shoothouse, they had to use simunitions, basically a version of paintball in an old building. Live fire had to be conducted on ranges, which limited movement and lines of fire to straight lanes, according to McCormick.

"(The shoothouse) lets us brush up on our tactics," a private first class from the Fort Gordon team said. "It gives us a place to train. (This is a skill) that you lose...it's perishable."

Fort Gordon's Special Reaction Team, along with members of the Fort Stewart, Ga., SRT practiced in Fort Gordon's new shoothouse. The shoothouse is a five-room building used to train SRT Soldiers in entering and securing houses and other occupied buildings. The shoothouse walls are reinforced with steel which allows for safe weapons firing inside. Before getting the new shoothouse, the SRT teams did all of their training on ranges like the one shown above. This range is still in use.



Baghdad International Police Academy graduates second class

Cpl. Benjamin Cossel
Army News Service

BAGHDAD, Iraq — After completing eight physically and mentally demanding weeks of training, 479 men and women officially joined the Iraqi Police Service during a graduation ceremony at the Baghdad Police Academy April 1st.

This class was the second to graduate from the International Police Academy since the program's inception in December of 2003. So far, 945 academy graduates — men and women — have joined the ranks of the Iraqi Police Service.

"You, the men and women of the Iraqi Police, have chosen the side of civilization," said U.S. Ambassador L. Paul Bremer III, U.S. Civilian Administrator, Coalition Provisional Authority, addressing graduating class. "Within you and your colleagues, are the difficult answers to the shameful barbarians of Fallujah and Karbala and Najaf and Baghdad. You follow in the finest tradition of all humanity as you take up the task of protecting the innocent."

Instructors from Iraq, the United States, the United Kingdom, Canada, Sweden,

Finland, Austria and Jordan taught the basics of police paperwork, search techniques, sensitivity training and traffic control.

Special attention was given to human rights training, according to officials. Officers are taught that they are civil servants; their primary job is to protect the people.

In addition to their police training, students were faced with cultural challenges. They had to learn how to work with members of different religious groups and members of the opposite sex. Members of the graduating class included Kurds, Sunni, and Shiite Muslims.

"We must all come together as one if Iraq is to be a free democracy," said Col. Hussein Medi, dean of the academy.

Students spend the first four weeks of training learning the theory of police work and the last four weeks putting that theory into practical application. Once they have graduated, officers spend two weeks in the Transition Integration Program working with

current members of the IPS. Upon completion of those two weeks, they will be given orders assigning them to their permanent assignments within the Baghdad Police Department.

"You have chosen a dangerous and difficult path," Medi said, "You are to be commended. I am proud of you, all of Iraq is proud of you and we will stand with you as we continue on to a safe and meaningful freedom."

Working for the IPS has become one of the most dangerous occupations in Iraq because officers have become the preferred target of insurgents, Medi said.

Falling under the Ministry of Interior, the current IPS force contains 67,000 officers. It is the goal of the academy to graduate 32,000 officers by Jan. 2005, said Master Sgt. Bill Saccente, academy operations non-commissioned officer, 415th Military Police Liaison Detachment.

"You, the finest of the honorable majority of Iraqi's men and women have chosen to

confront the evil doers, to carry the banner of civilization," Bremer said. "Your efforts and those of the millions of Iraqis who support you will make a difference."

Editor's note: Cpl. Benjamin Cossel is assigned to the 122nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment.

So far, 945 academy graduates — men and women — have joined the ranks of the Iraqi Police Service.

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CG applauds fort's civilian workforce

Brig. Gen. Janet Hicks
Fort Gordon commander

This note is addressed to all of the civilian members of our Fort Gordon 'family.' The Open Letter accompanying this commentary is of the utmost importance to all of you. It describes the proposed National Security Personnel System which will transform the current career management system for you and the rest of the 700,000 dedicated civilians within DoD.

This system will reflect support needed for our national security mission while ensuring the continued fair treatment of every civilian employee. I fully endorse the due diligence being taken to help protect our nation in our changing, very dangerous world. I also fully support every effort to ensure our civilians have every opportunity to advance in their careers while continuing their invaluable contributions as our DoD partners.

Fort Gordon's appreciation for our own civilian workforce can be seen in the expansion of training made available through our Directorate of Human Resources, such as in our increased attention to Civilian Management and Leader training. The results of our most recent Command Climate Assessment reaffirmed the need for this added training as well as focusing on the clear importance and vital role that our civilians play in the daily life and missions of the installation. That vitality and import is also reflected in my directions to implement policy changes in our hiring practices to absolutely ensure that every employee and every prospective employee is treated with the respect, impartiality and fairness he or she deserves.

These actions, both locally and by DoD, demonstrate the immense worth and appreciation felt for our civilian employees by me, and leaders throughout the nation. Again, I urge each of you to closely read the attached letter and follow the process being undertaken to create and execute NSPS.

Civilian personnel system transformed

The Department of Defense's civilian workforce is one of our country's most important national security assets. As we develop a process for designing and implementing the National Security Personnel System (NSPS), we want to ensure that all stakeholders in the new system -- including civilian employees, managers, and exclusive representatives -- have an opportunity to provide their thoughts, ideas, views and concerns.

The task before us is to design a transformed system for the Department's 700,000 civilian employees that supports our national security mission while treating workers fairly and protecting their rights. But the NSPS is a means to that end, not the end itself. Secretary Rumsfeld has directed the implementation of NSPS to be inclusive and comprehensive.

DoD teams are working closely with the Office of Personnel Management, the Office of Management and Budget, and the Government Accounting Office. These teams will develop a comprehensive design and implementation process that will be presented to the Department's senior leadership in April. After internal approval, we will discuss the approach with Congress.

We are determined to take the time necessary to do the job right. As we work to refine the NSPS, the procedures and concepts will likely change over time. During this period of collaboration, you will have a variety of means by which to get information about NSPS. In the near future, please take time to do one or several of the following:

- Tune in to DoD's internal news outlets, including Defenselink.mil and DefendAmerica.mil, featuring articles by the Armed Forces Press Service.
- Watch The Pentagon Channel or your local military television programming for announcements of upcoming "town hall" meetings and other Q&A sessions with DoD officials involved in NSPS design and development.
- Visit the NSPS website at www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps to receive the most recent and up-to-date information. The website also provides opportunity to offer comments and suggestions.

Be patient as the process is still being defined, but working together, we can make this a world-class system to support our world-class team of civilian employees at the Department of Defense. Thank you.

David S. C. Chu
David S. C. Chu
Under Secretary of Defense for
Personnel & Readiness

Armando England
Armando England
Secretary of the Navy

Aviation unveils life without Comanche

Sgt. 1st Class Marcia Triggs
Army News Service

The Army's aviation fleet is undergoing a total overhaul, and the main priority is increasing survivability to protect the aircraft and the Soldiers it carries.

Aviators, crewmen, commanders and the technology community gathered to unfold the Army's aviation transformation plan during the Army Aviation Association of America Annual Convention in Nashville, Tenn., March 24-27.

By 2011, the Army will purchase 903 new aircraft, upgrade the current fleet to be more survivable, lethal and agile and work with the sister services to develop a Joint Multi-Role Helicopter.

During a four-and-a-half month

study, members on the Army Aviation Task Force made more than 120 recommendations on how to turn aviation brigades into joint and expeditionary forces that are modular units of action. The total bill comes out to \$12.8 billion, the Pentagon official said.

"We're going to ask industry what weapon systems our potential adversaries may have, and we're going to be very innovative in how we deal with those threats," said Lt. Gen. Richard Cody, the Deputy Chief of Staff of Operations, G3.

Out of the recommendations came the idea to develop three new aircraft -- a light utility helicopter, an armored reconnaissance helicopter and a cargo aircraft.

"It would be premature to talk about what the helicopters are going

to look like. Right now we're in the capabilities phase," Cody said.

In a concerted effort Fort Rucker, Ala., Training and Doctrine Command and the Headquarters Department of the Army Staff will decide on the capabilities they want, and then let industry meet the niche, Cody said.

A more immediate addition to the aviation ranks will be unmanned aerial vehicles. The Army was given three I-GNAT UAVs as a congressional plus up and right now two are deployed to Iraq.

It's not just about I-GNAT, UAVs in general are a great contribution to the war fighter, the Pentagon official said. They perform reconnaissance and surveillance missions, and are becoming more and more important, the official added.

The Army will spend \$390 million toward UAV acceleration. Currently in the Central Command area there are Ravens, which are tactical UAVs used at the platoon level. The smaller UAVs are referred to as Shadow and the larger ones, I-GNAT and Hunter, are used at division and brigade level.

The Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Peter Schoomaker advised the Aviation Task Force to improve survivability, increase deployability, optimize capabilities and shorten the logistics tail, the Pentagon official said.

Now the aviation field is following the infantry's example of the Stryker by creating a "common cockpit." Like the Stryker, which

See Aviation, page 11



Feedback

Spc. Sam Smith

How do you feel about volunteering?



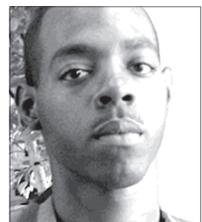
I think it's a resource a lot of people need to tap into. I suggest to a lot of MP's that come here that they volunteer in sports or something. It makes them happier.

Beth Loftis
Directorate of Public Safety



It's a good idea. It's a good way to get involved in your area, help people, and get and give a different outlook on stuff.

Pfc. Valerie Webb
B Co., 369th Sig. Bn.



I think we need some more people to volunteer. Everybody should volunteer for something.

Pfc. Divant Townes
D Co. 551st Sig. Bn.



It's rewarding and shows the community we're here and we care about what goes on outside the gates. We're not by ourselves here on Fort Gordon we're a part of Augusta. I enjoy it personally. I like getting out there and helping people.

Sgt. First Class Gerry Simard
A Co., 447 Sig. Bn.

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Operation Vigilant Resolve nets 'high value targets'

Twelve Marines killed in aggressive operations in Al Anbar Province

Department of Defense

CAMP FALLUJAH, Iraq – I Marine Expeditionary Force continued to execute Operation Vigilant Resolve yesterday throughout the Al Anbar Province and in several cities known to harbor anti-Iraqi forces.

Operations from the Syrian border to the Baghdad suburbs have resulted in the capture or death of a significant number of anti-Iraqi forces and foreign terrorists. To the west, a combination of the ongoing

efforts in the Husaybah and Al Qa'im regions are undercutting the ability of the anti-Iraqi forces to import foreign fighters, cash and equipment. Heightened operations to the east, to include the cordon around Fallujah and combat operations in other major cities in the Al Anbar Province, are drawing out anti-Iraqi forces.

Establishing a persistent presence in areas where U.S. forces have not consistently operated over the last 12 months has been costly. Operations as they unfolded yesterday in Ar Ramadi were shadowed by the loss of 12 Marines. Eleven Marines died while engaged with the anti-Iraqi forces for more than

seven hours; one died from wounds suffered during the firefight.

The increase in the number of attacks on Coalition Forces in the Al Anbar Province is attributable to the I Marine Expeditionary Force's strategy to heighten their profile, operate throughout the zone and challenge anti-Iraqi forces in place where they've gained influence.

The citizens of Ar Ramadi remained in their homes during the engagement. Several calls from Iraqi citizens to the Coalition tip line aided Coalition Forces in identifying, isolating and combating the terrorists.

Throughout the fight, members of the Iraqi Police Ser-

vice and Iraqi Civil Defense Corps soldiers secured key city government facilities and helped control traffic in and out of the city. When the fighting subsided, Ar Ramadi remained under the supervision of the governor of the province, the chief of police and the Iraqi security forces.

As of 8 p.m. Tuesday, the Iraqi Police Services and Iraqi Civil Defense Corps were providing security for the residents of Ar Ramadi. Coalition Forces are monitoring the situation and ready to provide support in the event that terrorists resume hostilities.

The names of the dead are being withheld pending next of kin notification.

DoD submits environmental training changes to Congress

Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

The Defense Department will try for a third time to get three provisions of the DoD Readiness and Range Preservation Initiative passed by Congress.

DoD officials submitted to congressional committees proposed legislation that will clarify the intent of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. The department also is asking Congress to extend the allowable time to incorporate new military activities into Clean Air Act state plans.

Congress passed five other portions of the initiative as part of the fiscal 2004 National Defense Authorization Act.

"It's just as important to pass these initiatives today

The legislative proposals would clarify what Congress meant when it passed the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. It would preclude people from using the acts to shut down munitions training and testing.

as it was two years ago," said Ray DuBois, deputy undersecretary of defense for installations and environment.

DoD's deputy general counsel for environment and installations, Ben Cohen, said the time that has passed since the proposals were first introduced has helped focus the legislation. He said the proposals are narrowly aimed at allowing DoD to improve military readiness. He said the proposals are limited to active operational

ranges.

This authority is needed to ensure the United States continues to field the best military in the world, said Paul Mayberry, deputy undersecretary for readiness. "The U.S. military is the best in the world because we train more often, we train to a higher standard and we train in a realistic setting," Mayberry said.

The legislative proposals would clarify what Congress meant when it passed the Comprehensive Environ-

mental Response, Compensation and Liability Act and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. It would preclude people from using the acts to shut down munitions training and testing.

The department is not asking for wholesale exemptions from environmental regulations, but rather is seeking to codify very specific regulatory policies that have applied to military training activities on operational ranges, Cohen said.

At heart, the changes ensure that military munitions, fired and used correctly in training, are not solid wastes nor "releases" subject to regulation under environmental laws, Cohen said.

DuBois said he won't try to predict what Congress will do with the proposal, but he said the department is willing to work with whatever committee Congress deems appropriate for it.

Foundation awards scholarships to children of fallen Marines

Donna Miles
American Forces Press Service

With increased U.S. Marine deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan, the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation is stepping up fund-raising so it can honor its pledge to award scholarships to all children of Marines killed in combat during the war on terror.

The foundation also has pledged to award scholarships to all children of Navy corpsmen killed in combat while serving with the Marines, and

to any children of Marines and former Marines killed on Sept. 11, 2001.

Scholarships run up to \$10,000 each, according to Rose Gault, the foundation's director of development. All scholarships are funded through private donations.

Retired Lt. Gen. Jeffrey Oster, chairman of the foundation's board, called the

During 2003, the foundation awarded 982 scholarships totaling more than \$1.5 million.

special scholarships part of the foundation's 40-year tradition of helping young men and women. Since its inception in 1962, the Marine Corps Scholarship Foundation has awarded more than \$22 million in scholarships and education bonds to children of

See Scholarships, page 9

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First Stryker brigade proving its worth in Iraq

Joe Burlas
Army News Service

A year after conducting its Initial Operational Capabilities testing, the Army's first Stryker Brigade Combat Team is faring well in Iraq, according to senior Army procurement officials.

Members of the Pentagon press corps got an update Monday on successes of the Army's first fielded SBCT — 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, based in Fort Lewis, Wash. — and the Army's fielding plan for the remaining planned Stryker brigades.

"The 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division is performing extremely effectively in combat in Iraq," said Col. Nick Justice, acting assistant deputy for Acquisition and Systems Management for the assistant secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology. "The SBCT has effectively used speed and situational understanding to kill and capture dozens of enemy fighters."

That speed and quietness of the wheeled Strykers, compared to armored track vehicles, has earned the 3-2nd a nickname among many Iraqis, Justice said. Iraqi citizens around Samarra gave the brigade Soldiers the nickname "Ghost Riders" as the Stryker vehicles arrive and deploy their infantrymen with little noise or warning.

Citing that no Soldiers have been killed due to rocket-propelled grenade or improvised explosive device attacks while riding in a Stryker vehicle since the 3-2nd arrived in Iraq last fall, Justice said that Army leaders are very pleased with its survivability in combat. The most serious injury due to an RPG or IED attack against a Stryker vehicle to date has been a broken ankle.

The brigade has suffered casualties in Iraq — chief among them, three Soldiers were killed in a Stryker rollover when a roadway embankment gave way in December.

Strykers in Iraq are augmented with add-on slat armor that is proving effective against RPG attacks.

Despite the effectiveness of the slat armor

against the current threat in Iraq, the Army is still pursuing the development of reactive armor.

"Slat armor is successful, but we don't want to be locked into it as there are other threats out there where reactive armor is needed," Justice said.

The Army plans on building enough Stryker add-on reactive armor kits to equip several brigades. Those brigade sets will be drawn from a pre-positioned site and used when a mission requires it, according to Army officials. The first brigade set of reactive armor is scheduled to be fielded in March 2005, with another set ready the following year.

Stryker operations in Iraq have given Army procurement officials some lessons learned that will be implemented in the near future. Among those lessons, there is a need for greater sensor range and greater reach back communications capability. To address the sensor issue, the Army plans to make the sensor mast on the Stryker Reconnaissance Vehicle taller; and for the communications issue, replace the 44 Near-Term Digital Radios in the brigade with 53 satellite radio sets capable of operating in a joint environment over greater distances.

On the logistics side, the 3-2nd is proving that having a common chassis for its combat vehicles means a smaller logistics tail. The brigade is carrying about 160 lines of spare parts, compared to an armored brigade that carries about 300 lines of parts, Justice said. Having a common family of vehicles within the brigade also means a common set of skill sets among brigade Soldiers to keep the vehicle maintained, he said.

Stating that a year of combat operations equates to about seven years of normal operational use of a combat vehicle, Justice said the operational readiness rate of the Stryker is about where he expected it to be — above 90 percent.

There are two variants and eight other configurations of the basic Stryker Infantry Carrier. The Mobile Gun System and the Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Reconnaissance and



U.S. Army photo

Stryker vehicles from 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division, position themselves in the town of Samarra, a town northwest of Baghdad in December 2003.

Survey Vehicles have yet to be fielded due to several human engineering issues that are being worked, according to officials. Low rate production of the MGS is expected to start late this summer, Justice said.

The Army's second SBCT — 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division — is currently undergoing its Initial Operational Capabilities evaluation. It is expected to be certified by the Department of Defense as operationally ready sometime this summer.

The next brigade to transform to a SBCT will be 172nd Infantry Brigade (Separate), Fort

Richardson, Alaska. The 172nd will start getting its Stryker vehicles in May, Justice said.

A February Defense Acquisition Board decision has funded the fourth Stryker brigade — 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment (Light), Fort Polk, La.

DoD has recently directed the Army to include the remaining brigades for Stryker conversion — 2nd Brigade, 25th Infantry Division (Light), Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; and the 56th Brigade of the 28th Infantry Division (Mechanized), Pennsylvania Army National Guard — in its budget planning process.

Broach

from page 2

and with certainty in their hearts into the unknown. It made me stand a little straighter and maybe a few other older Soldiers as well," the 51 years old. "We haven't really given the youth of America the benefit of the doubt, but the youth of America has never faltered when called upon."

His fourth time deployed during Operation Enduring Freedom, Broach said the experience he has had in Afghanistan is one of the best since he's been in the Army.

"The Kabul compound is so close knit—it's like a small community. We see each other in the dining facility, the PX, the gym—everywhere. You bond and there's more of an interest to help each other. Here we're more conscious of each others need to band together," he said. "Because here, we all put on our body armor and chamber a

round every time we step-off the compound—it is real over here.

"I saw a dog stop at the MP gate, look both ways and then turned around and went back inside—even that dog had enough common sense to know not to go off compound alone," Broach said.

"We are making a difference here ... like these kids, with their little dusty faces, playing soccer, they appreciate what the Coalition Forces have done," he said. "As soon as he got paid, one of our safe house

guards went out and bought a bicycle with a little bell on it ... he's a grown man, and he was so happy to have that new bicycle."

But now this father of two has decided it is his time to settle down. "After 32 years, it's time for me to return home. Every time I plan on retiring something happens, so whatever the Army needs of me I'm ready," he said.

"A signal platoon in the future will have more capabilities, better trained Soldiers and less equipment than a

signal battalion today—you can see it with wireless already. I want to give credit to the installation team of professional civilian installers working side-by-side and continuing to train our cable dogs. They make it happen!"

Communication is the key to success. The Army has grown and the communication technology has innovated with it, but Broach maintains it is the signalmen and his civilian counterpart who will keep the Army talking and "getting the message through."

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3rd ID tests 'unit of action' at NTC

Gary Sheftick
Army News Service

FORT IRWIN, Calif.- How can fewer tanks, fewer Bradleys and fewer howitzers add up to a more lethal unit?

That's what the Army's first "unit of action" set out to prove at the National Training Center March 26 to Saturday.

In the first field test of the new brigade structure, the 2nd UA of the 3rd Infantry Division is also training to return to Iraq. This time last year, many of the Soldiers were charging their armored vehicles victoriously into Baghdad as the 2nd Brigade Combat Team of the 3rd ID.

One difference between the BCT and the new unit of action is the addition of assets that previously belonged to the division. Field artillery, signal, chemical and engineer units that once supported the brigade are now permanently assigned to the UA. Capabilities such as counter-intelligence, human intelligence, and electronic warfare have been moved down to the UA.

"This organization has injected a lot more efficiencies with us and that makes us a lot more combat effective than what we were," said Col. Joseph DiSalvo, 2nd UA commander. "And we were pretty damn combat effective before the reorganization."

Restructuring as a UA brought about a significant change in task organization, DiSalvo said.

Instead of three maneuver battalions, there will be only two in the UA. The UAs will be modular - each with one infantry battalion and one armored battalion.

As it restructured, the brigade lost a battalion of armor, and that means 44 fewer M-1 Abrams tanks. But a cavalry squadron was added to the UA, and it will eventually become a reconnaissance, surveillance and target acquisition squadron, or RSTA. It will replace the brigade reconnaissance troop with more than three times the force.

The 19th Field Artillery is also perma-



Photo by Gary Sheftick

A convoy of 3rd Infantry Division vehicles pass Whale Mountain during the first field test of the Army's new "unit of action" at the National Training Center.

nently assigned, minus a battery of Paladins that used to support the BCT. The brigade also lost a battery of air defense artillery as it transitioned to a UA.

In the brigade support area, the 26th Forward Support Battalion and elements of the 10th Engineer Battalion are also now assigned to the UA. In the past, the FSB and engineers supported the brigade in combat, but now they're permanent UA assets.

"With people staying here and working here for an extended period of time, you get a good team, a really good team going," said Staff Sgt. Kirk Hill, a communications NCO with the 26th FSB. "Continuity-wise, I know how the other guy works and he knows how I work."

It all adds up to a more self-sufficient and cohesive team, according to a division operations officer. He said UA commanders should have more flexibility and the capability to maneuver elements faster.

A signal company and military intelligence company is also part of the UA. A four-person public affairs section will be part of the UA, and the headquarters will be beefed up by 58 additional personnel.

DiSalvo said the indirect fires of the field artillery combined with intelligence assets make the UA more lethal.

"With these assets, there's a better chance we'll collect the information," DiSalvo said, adding that new equipment such as unmanned aerial vehicles, sensors and communications suites will be fielded with UAs in the future, to further improve combat effectiveness.

As for now, DiSalvo and the UA are focused on Iraq. "This is part of our training for OIF-3" he said. "We can't squander it, we only get 14 days."

Army officials announced last month that a newly restructured 3rd Infantry Division would return to Iraq for the next rotation, possibly as early as November.

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Got mail

More than 100 children and teachers of Martinez Elementary School in Martinez, Ga., donated 12 boxes of letters and comfort items to the 67th Signal Battalion and the 235th Signal Company, 56th Signal Battalion, currently in Iraq and Kuwait as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Principal Michele Sherman and Sheila Dillard, teacher, spearheaded the goodwill campaign to encourage the children to write and express their patriotism.



Photo by Maj. Tina Schreiner

Scholarship

from page 6

Marines or former Marines.

During 2003, Gault said, the foundation awarded 982 scholarships totaling more than \$1.5 million. That figure is expected to increase as more Marines make the ultimate sacrifice in Southwest Asia, she said. So

far, 77 children have lost a Marine parent in Afghanistan or Iraq since Sept. 11, 2001.

When terrorists blew up the Marine Corps barracks in Beirut, Lebanon, in 1983, the foundation awarded \$10,000 education bonds to every child

who lost a parent in the attack, including children of Navy and Army service members. Similarly, the foundation awarded \$10,000 education bonds to all children of service members killed during Operation Desert Storm, regardless of the parent's branch of service.

"We have always given special consideration to children whose Marine parent was killed or wounded in combat, and this policy is a continuation of our

support for the Marine Corps family," Oster said.

"We want our warriors to know that we will be there for their family," he said. "Our unwavering commitment to youth, education and the values that have made our country strong will continue."

For more information about the scholarship program or to make a donation, visit the organization's Web site or call (800) 292-7777 toll-free.

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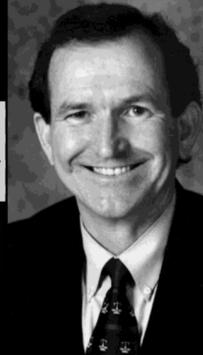
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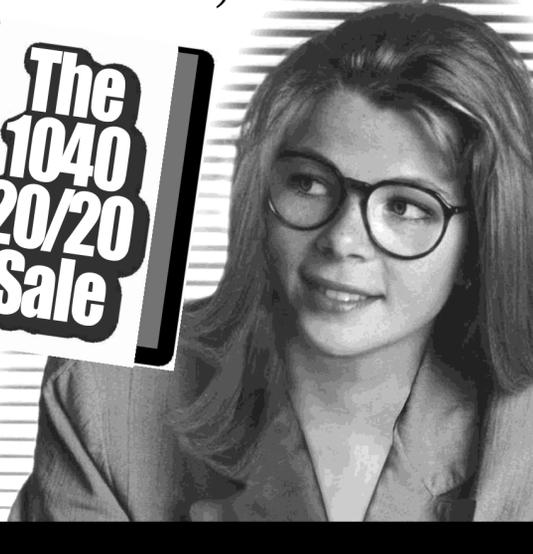
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Army tests flight operations from high-speed water vessel

Army News Service

ABOARD THE USAV JOINT VENTURE X1, in the Yellow Sea — More than 30 years have passed since the last Army helicopter landed onboard an Army ship, but Army aviators began a new chapter in history March 25 when they landed two UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters aboard a new test vessel in the Yellow Sea.

The Black Hawks, assigned to Company B, 1st Battalion, 52nd Aviation Regiment, 17th Aviation Brigade, landed at 10:57 a.m. Korean Standard Time aboard the USAV Joint Venture X1 off the coast of Pyongtaek.

The helicopters offloaded passengers onto the deck of the ship, and then performed deck landing certification operations, which consists of each pilot landing on the deck of the vessel five times.

"This is awesome having

Army aircraft landing on an Army vessel," said Lt. Col. Steven Boylan, Public Affairs officer for 8th U.S. Army. "This is the first time an Army pilot has landed on an Army vessel in 30 years."

Although this landing was historically significant, future deck landings aboard Army vessels is uncertain. The Army currently has no watercraft in its permanent inventory capable of supporting flight operations. The Joint Venture is the first of two military-leased modified high-speed catamarans being tested as part of the Army's Transformation plan.

It is possible that this ship, and others like it, may find their way into the permanent inventory, which would give the Army the capability to rapidly move troops and equipment into previously inaccessible areas.

The ship stationed in Ha-



Courtesy photo

A Black Hawk helicopter from the 17th Aviation Brigade, based in South Korea, lands on the USAV Joint Venture. The March 25 landing in the Yellow Sea was the first Army aircraft landing aboard an Army water vessel in more than 30 years.

wai under the command of U.S. Army Pacific, was in the Korea theater of operations to support the Reception, Staging, Onward Movement and Integration exercise, commonly referred to as RSO&I, that runs from March 21 to 29 throughout the peninsula.

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Tim Turner, the operations of-

ficer for the Joint Venture, said the landing of Army aircraft on this ship is a milestone for both Army aviation and transportation.

"I think it's going great," said Turner. "It's very exciting." He said having an Army helicopter land on the aircraft is a validation of the capabilities of the Joint Venture.

Army leadership will see the capabilities of this vessel and flight operations like Thursday's will help pave the way for future vessels.

"We normally go to the Navy for deck certification," said Boylan. "Hopefully, we will be able to do our own deck certification." The Army's last deck land-

ings occurred during the Vietnam War, when USNS Corpus Christy Bay was used as a helicopter maintenance ship. The Corpus Christy Bay was a U.S. Navy ship recommissioned by the Army in the mid-1960s.

Editor's note: From an 8th Army press release.

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Aviators, infantrymen form historic bonds in Iraq

Army News Service

History is being made in northern Iraq as the Stryker Brigade Combat Team and a Fort Drum aviation unit work together to combat terrorism. Since entering northern Iraq in November infantry leaders from the 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division SBCT, Fort Lewis, Wash., have flown in helicopters during raid missions. Pilots from the 10th Aviation Brigade, 10th Mountain Division from Fort Drum, N.Y., have ridden in Strykers. The integration is so they can understand their counterpart's challenges.

Along with most major parts in the Army, aviation is transforming into standardized, modular units that are fully integrated with the combined arms and joint forces, said Lt. Gen. Richard Cody, the Deputy Chief of Staff of Operations, G3, while testifying before the Senate Armed Services Committee.

"The 10th Aviation Brigade is the first aviation unit to work with the SBCT in a combat zone," said Lt. Col. Reggie Mason, a commander with the 10th Avn. Bde, who is currently in Iraq. "Therefore, it's very important we establish tactics, techniques and procedures that other squadrons can emulate in the future."

Part of the transition from current aviation units to Aviation Units of Action is to review and revise doctrine based on what was learned from operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, Cody said.

The Army has lost 44 aircraft since Oct. 1, 2001 and 38 aviation Soldiers have died. Those losses have not been without purpose, Cody said. "They have informed us for the future and have placed an unprecedented sense of urgency in improving our capabilities, systems and doctrine."



U.S. Army photo

A UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter flies over the Tigris River, transporting Soldiers to a Forward Operating Base near Mosul. When transporting Soldiers, the gunners and pilots are also looking for enemy activity.

Representatives from the U.S. Army Aviation Center at Fort Rucker, Ala., are aggressively revising those training strategies, he added.

Testing and focus of Army Aviation will be at Fort Rucker, according to Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Peter Schoomaker.

"Fort Rucker is a world-class installation with the tremendous land that's available ... and the airspace that's available and its great infrastructure," Schoomaker said during an interview with local media at Fort Rucker.

Representatives from Fort Rucker, Training and Doctrine Command and members of the Army Aviation Task Force, which is led by Maj. Gen. James Thurman, are responsible for making Army aviation a capabilities-based maneuver arm, optimized for the joint fight with a shortened logistics tail, Cody said.

The OH-58D Kiowa War-

rior, an armored reconnaissance helicopter, is currently providing the eyes in the sky for ground troops at war. However, as the aviation community moves to the future force, the Kiowa Warrior may be retired. Cody later said in an interview in Nashville, Tenn., that nothing is being taken off the table as the acquisition world looks for platforms to perform specific functions and missions.

Aviation maintenance also must transform to meet the needs of the Aviation Units of Action. A two-level condition-based maintenance system to reduce spare parts requirements is being initiated to reduce the aviation logistics footprint, said Cody.

The future operational environment demands that Army aviation be rapidly deployable when called, Cody said.

Based on current and projected aircraft inventories, the current non-standard aviation

brigades will be restructured into 11 active-duty, two reserve-component multi-functional National Units of Action. The National Guard will have six Aviation Expeditionary Regiments.

Fixing aviation is not just about purchasing and resetting equipment. Officials agree that the centerpiece is aviators and crewmen.

The training strategy will include implementing Flight School XXI to graduate more competent and trained flight crews at Fort Rucker. The Army Aviation Center and School is now qualifying all AH-64 pilots on Night Vision goggles and there is increased training emphasis on Aircraft Survivability Equipment. Also training devices and simulators will be upgraded, Cody said.

Editor's note: Sgt. 1st Class Marcia Triggs and Sgt. Fred Minnick both contributed to this article.

Aviation

From page 4

has 10 variants but same or similar parts, helicopters will share the same hardware and software.

In 2003, the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, Fort Campbell, Ky., implemented their version of "common cockpit" referred to as the Common Avionics Architecture System or CAAS.

By placing common hardware and software in three of the regiment's aircraft, training was simplified and the logistics demands on the unit were reduced, the G3 official said. The open avionics architecture also will make it easier to upgrade the aircraft with third-party vendor software.

The use of CAAS by the conventional Army is one initiative that will be adopted from the Special Operations

Community, Cody said. "We always want the 160th to be the premier aviation force in the Army,"

Cody said. "We always want them well ahead of the conventional force."

Schoomaker, who has served with both conventional and Special Operations forces, challenges the aviation community to use Special Operations initiatives that can be sustained and resourced, Cody said.

In an interview at Fort Rucker, Schoomaker said that in the future there will be a closer relationship between what's occurring in Special Operations aviation and conventional aviation. Army Aviation in the conventional sense will move to another level, a higher level. At the same time it allows the 160th to

move to an even higher-level capability, he added.

The need to purchase and upgrade the current fleet is the reason behind the Comanche termination, officials said.

"Had we not terminated the Comanche, I would be absolutely concerned," Cody said. "By 2011 we would have had to cut our aviation fleet by a sizable number."

At the termination of the Comanche, only two aircraft had been built, and \$6.9 billion spent since 1983. If the Army had continued to fund the program it would cost \$14.6 billion more to purchase 121 aircraft by 2011 and up to \$2 billion more to add the survivability equipment that is being added to the rest of the Army's fleet, the Pentagon official added.

However, the technology that was developed for the Comanche will not be lost, but will be harvested in other Army aviation programs.

"We needed a place where we could take the Comanche technology and ensure that it was retained," the Pentagon official said.

The goal is to work through a joint solution with the sister services and decide on a new rotorcraft by 2020 or 2025, the official added.

Transformation plans for the aviation field complement the combined arms fight, Cody said. If you take any one weapon system, a Bradley, Abrams or UAV and put it up against an enemy, the enemy will learn to deal with it. It's a combination of all those weapon systems, the official added.

Editor's note: This is the twelfth article in a weekly series on the 17 Army focus areas. This one focuses on "Army Aviation."

Transformation plans for the aviation field complement the combined arms fight.



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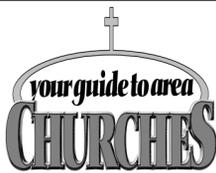
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Domingos 10:30 a.m.
(servicio de celebraci3n).
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Orlando y Margie Tolentino
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(706)-564-2075

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www.newcreationchristianchurch.org

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Sunday Worship 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

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Sunday a.m. Pickup 9:15
Sunday Church 10-11:30
Sunday Evening Service 6:30
Wednesday Service 7-8:30
Sunday AM Pick up at 9:45
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Sunday Worship 11:15 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
"Learning to live"
Bible Study 7:00 p.m.
THURSDAY
Choir Rehearsal
Children Dance Practice
SATURDAY
Prayer 8:30 a.m.
Soul Winning 1:00 p.m.

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Snack Supper at 5:30

Bible Adventure and CYF at 6:00

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<http://www.feelthechange.org>

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website for info, maps and
current events

WESTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

Guatemala gets schools, hospitals, friends courtesy 'New Horizons'

Sgt. Nick Minecci
Army News Service

JUTIAPA, Guatemala – The U.S. servicemembers are working side-by-side with local soldiers to build schools, hospitals and dig wells to provide fresh drinking water for the local population in Guatemala.

Joint Task Force Quetzal kicked off "Exercise New Horizons 2004" with a ceremony attended by Guatemalan president Oscar Berger, U.S. Ambassador to Guatemala John Hamilton and other Guatemalan and U.S. dignitaries in Jutiapa, Guatemala, March 27.

Exercise New Horizons 2004 is a joint and combined exercise sponsored by the U.S. Southern Command, working with the Government of Guatemala to perform humanitarian and civic assistance projects, exercise related construction and medical readiness exercises.

"I'd like to thank the U.S. military and the U.S. authorities for the effort they are [using] to produce a better infrastructure for our beloved Jutiapa and its people," Berger said.

Reflecting on the rebuilding of Guatemala following years of internal strife, Berger said the efforts of both militaries are for a greater good and show the human side of both militaries.

"The tasks that will be done will be of great benefit for the Jutiapan people," he said. "But more than anything, this [exercise] is a symbol of the union and friendship we have, and a symbol that militaries can collaborate with one another when the principal interests are for the people, of freedom

and democracy," he said.

The timing of New Horizons, as the Guatemalan military undergoes a massive transformation, is a positive for all those involved, according to Hamilton.

"The humanitarian effort to construct community services, such as schools and clinics and (other structures) are good for the modern army," Hamilton said. "This effort on the part of both militaries gives them an opportunity to work side-by-side while improving the way of life for the people of Guatemala."

The Task Force Quetzal members have been building a base camp for several weeks, and will soon move into the surrounding area to begin civil construction jobs.

"I already know that my troops are going to provide the people of Jutiapa with superb structures," said Col. Tim Welch, commander of Task Force

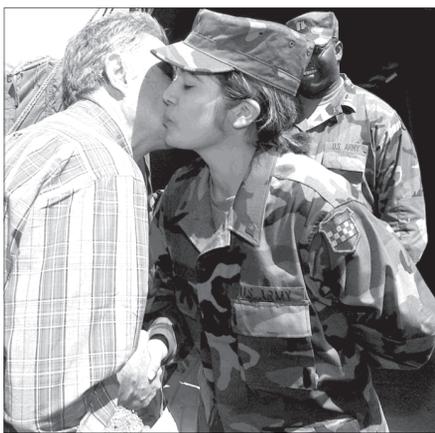


Photo by Sgt. Nick Minecci

Guatemalan president Oscar Berger is greeted at the 312th Field Hospital by Spc. Beatriz Cruz, 818th Maintenance Company (Direct Support), 326th Maintenance Battalion, 300th Area Support Group, 99th Regional Readiness Command, during his visit to Base Camp Quetzal. Cruz, a native of Guatemala City, acted as tour guide for Berger during his visit here for the opening ceremony of Exercise New Horizons 2004.

Quetzal.

"It is truly an honor and a pleasure to command a group like this, and to be able to help our friends and allies here, to help bring a better future for the people of the state of Jutiapa," he added.

Editor's note: Sgt. Nick Minecci is assigned to the 214th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment.

High school seniors get 'BIG' scholarships

Special to The Signal

Ashley Company, Aveance A. Badall and Tiffany C. Hines were this year's recipients of the Greater Augusta Area Chapter of Blacks in Government scholarships.

Ashley Company, a senior at Glenn Hills Comprehensive High School, plans to attend Hampton University, Hampton, Va., to major in sports management. She is the daughter of Troyano and Lynette Watts.

Aveance A. Badall, a senior at George P. Butler High School, plans to attend Augusta State University to major in Biology. She is the daughter of Gloria Badall.

Tiffany C. Hines, also a senior at George P. Butler High School, plans to attend Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, Ga., to major in international relations. She is the daughter

of Alonzo and Peggy Hines.

The National Organization of BIG is a nonprofit, tax exempt, nonpartisan, educational, training, advisory and professional development organization that seeks to represent more than 3 million African Americans, employed in federal, state and local government. BIG cultivates a desire to succeed, and to stimulate personal development and professionalism. The organization focuses on achieving equality of opportunity.

The Greater Augusta Area Chapter of BIG was established in March 1987 and has a viable organization in the Augusta area. Over the years, GAAC BIG has been instrumental in providing scholarships to high school seniors in the CSRA. The organization's main goal is to provide an incentive to students who seek to further their education at the college level.



Courtesy photo

(From left to right) Ashley Company, Aveance A. Badall, and Tiffany C. Hines were the recipients of this year's Greater Augusta Area Chapter of Blacks in Government scholarships.

In addition to the scholarship program, GAAC BIG is active in community outreach and promotes programs to support the Fort Gordon and the Greater Augusta Area communities annually.

For more information on the local chapter, contact Harold Simon, President, P.O. Box 8019, Fort Gordon, GA 30909, or by e-mail at h.f.simon@comcast.net.

Easter week schedule of events

Easter week events

Good Friday Service, 7 p.m. **Friday**

Easter Vigil Mass, 9 p.m. **Saturday**

Easter Sunday Masses, 8:30 and 10 a.m. **Sunday**

Protestant Holy Week events

Triumphal Entry March, 9:45 a.m. **Sunday**, Rice Road and Brainard Avenue.

Good Friday Service, noon **Friday**, Barnes Avenue Chapel

Easter Egg Hunt, 10 a.m. **Saturday**, Religious

Education Center, Building 39713

Sunday School Easter program, 9 a.m. **Sunday** Building 39709.

Easter Sunday worship services:

Bicentennial Chapel at 9 and 11 a.m.

Barnes Avenue Friendship Chapel at 9 and 11 a.m.

Faith Gospel Service at Signal Theater at 11 a.m.

Passover schedule

The Jewish Passover through **Tuesday**. There are no Jewish services offered on post. Contact the local synagogues for information on services.

Conservative: Adas Yeshurun Synagogue, 935 Johns Rd., 733-9491. To attend a home Seder, call Marcia at the Adas Yeshurun Synagogue.

Orthodox: Chabad of Augusta, Broad Street, 722-7659.

Reformed: Walton Way Temple, Congregation Children of Israel, 3005 Walton Way Ext., 736-3140.

Passover Seder on April 6, 6:30 p.m., cost is \$10 for active duty/ enlisted/medical students. Call Ila Abramovitz at 738-5734 for information.

Call the Chapel Centers/ Religious Activities Chaplain at 791-5163 for information about religious accommodations.

Busy?

Don't forget about God's business

Chaplain (Capt.) Lou DeLufo
202d MI Battalion Chaplain

ABU GHRAIB PRISON, Iraq—I just finished praying for God to use me for His business in our camp. But now I was running late.

I looked at my watch and remembered all the things I had to do before lunch. Normally I walked around camp, but I was behind schedule so I got in my vehicle to drive around. I didn't need gas in the vehicle. It was still over three quarters of a tank and I was busy running errands.

I drove past the fuel point to the chapel to drop something off for the other chaplain. We chatted briefly, but I quickly left because I had a lot to do.

I got back in the vehicle and drove back out past the fuel point to my room. I glanced at the needle and it hadn't moved.

I rushed in, picked up my dirty laundry and drove back past the fuel point to the laundry area. The needle still looked like it was in the same place.

I left the laundry point to head over to my office to pick up some paperwork and bring it to another Soldier. I don't know why I felt the urge to stop for gas, and the gauge confirmed that I didn't need any. After all, I was too busy to stop; I had places

to go, things to do, and people to see. I continued on past the fuel point to drop off

the paperwork for the Soldier. I got back in the vehicle, took a breath and began to drive back up to my office. I glanced at the gauge, and it still read three quarters of a tank. As I got closer to the fuel point, I felt the urge to stop again. Naturally I glanced at the needle and it hadn't moved.

Finally I just turned in to the fuel point and pulled up to the Soldier with the hose. He quietly took the fuel cap off and began to pump the gas into the truck. The hose quickly shut off because the truck only took two gallons of gas.

I snickered to myself, whispering under my breath: "I didn't even need gas, why did I stop?" I got out and walked over to the Soldier with the clipboard to sign for my two measly gallons of gas. The Soldier looked up from the paper and exclaimed, "Chaplain, I was sitting here this morning praying to God that I'd see you today. I really need to talk to you and didn't know where to find you, and here you are. Isn't God awesome!"

Now I knew that the gas I got today wasn't for me, it was for someone else whose tank was dry and almost empty. In my business, I almost forgot about God's business.



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 12:45-1:30, and Apr-Oct from 1:30-2:30.

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

Denominational Services

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

Religious Education

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

Other Programs/Services

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

Bible Studies

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

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

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

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

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

Chapel Directory

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

Religious Education

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

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



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EASTER BRUNCH

April 11, 2004

Two seatings:
10:30 am - 12:30 pm
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm



Easter Egg Hunts
12 pm & 2 pm

Adults - \$13
Children (ages 5-10) - \$8
Children 4 & under - \$3

For more information, call 791-6780

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April 10, 2004

Gordon Club
Gordon Terrace Ballroom
Dinner - Buffet style (Baked Chicken or Roast Beef)

Door open at 6:30 p.m. / Fashion Show starts at 7:00 p.m.

Tickets: Couples - \$25 / Singles - \$15

Dress will be semi-formal

For more information, call SPC King at 951-0034 or SPC Hendricks at 791-8514

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212 ways to be a Soldier

A day in the life of... ...a 91Q (pharmaceutical technician)

Sgt. Ryan Matson
Signal staff

Chances are at some point in your life, you are going to need the help of someone like Cpl. Brian Lunn, Company A, Eisenhower Army Medical Center.

That's because Lunn is a 91Q, or pharmaceutical technician. Every day he and a small staff of civilians fill thousands of prescriptions for patients on and around Fort Gordon.

Lunn is the Noncommissioned Officer in Charge of the Post Exchange refilling pharmacy, a job which, he explained, entails numerous responsibilities and a lot of hustle.

For one, Lunn is in charge of managing a satellite pharmacy with a \$10 billion yearly budget. This pharmacy handles medication refills exclusively, Lunn explained. The refills may be called in on an automated phone line, ordered on-line or mailed in, he said. He explained how his tiny satellite pharmacy does such an incredible amount of business.

"You've got medications that go out every day that are \$300 or \$400 for just one prescription," he said. "And one day we filled over 1,800 prescriptions, with a staff of three. During the cold season it tends to worsen. It's serious business, but it's like teamwork. It's not just one person, it's a whole team."

The satellite pharmacy located at the PX does so much business it requires a medication truck to come in every morning with a new order.

While the vault is filled daily, Lunn said the pharmacy carries only a 90-day supply of each medicine. He said the pharmacy also has a computer which identifies whether or not a person seeking a prescription has had one filled at another location.

After filling so many prescriptions each day, Lunn said the routine has become second nature.

"After a while, you get to the point where you can look at a medication in a vial, and know what it is," he said. "You know the weight and shape, it's crazy."

Aside from being responsible for this vast amount of inventory, Lunn said a 91Q handles many other duties.

"A lot of people think we just press buttons, but that's not true. We counsel patients, we stock and handle supply,



Photo by Sgt. Ryan Matson

Cpl. Brian Lunn dispenses medication at the post exchange refilling pharmacy.

and of course, we fill medications," Lunn said. "We order medications and also run the vault. There is an actual job for that known as a narcotition, which means they keep track of the vault and accountability for all of the narcotics in it. There are two civilians who do that here, although all military personnel are also trained in running the vault."

Besides ensuring a patient gets the proper medication, Lunn said a pharmacist handles a patient's other needs.

"Also, if a patient has a question we can't answer, the pharmacist is an expert on the subject," he said.

Like any occupation in the health care arena, Lunn said there is a great demand for pharmacists and pharmacy technicians.

"Any area of the medical field, you're guaranteed a job, because people are always sick, people are always going to need medicine," he said.

In the civilian sector a minimum of a two-year degree is needed to become a pharmacy technician, and at least a four-year degree is necessary to become a pharmacist.

In the Army, Lunn was able to learn the trade of a pharmacy technician in 18 weeks. The advanced individual training course to teach 91Qs their job is taught

at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas. Lunn said he learned how to compound medicines and mix things such as tack creams and mouth washes in AIT, and how to convert different measurements of medication dosages, to prepare intravenous bags, and of course, to fill prescriptions. Students learn how to use equipment such as pill counters, but added that more powerful drugs, narcotics, must be counted manually.

Learning different medications, their purposes and their correct spellings was also part of the course, Lunn said. He said staying on top of the different medications is an ongoing ordeal.

"People are constantly making new medications and there's always going to be a better one coming out each year."

Lunn said there are roughly 2,000 different kinds of medications in his satellite pharmacy alone.

One of the biggest challenges Lunn said a 91Q may face is dealing with a high volume of people, many of

whom have lost their patience from waiting for their medications.

"Over at the main pharmacy at Eisenhower Army Medical Center, people may wait in line ... for their medicine and want to know why," he said. "But there are so many prescriptions. Some people may have 30 medications, and you have to think that for that one person, you need to fill all those medications. I've done that before - filled 30 medications for one person."

If someone has made the decision to see a physician who is not employed on post, the process can become even longer, Lunn explained.

"If someone brings in a hard copy prescription, one that is not automatically placed in our computer by one of the physicians on post, things become even more time consuming," he said. "You have to verify everything - the patient's name, social security number, signature. You've definitely got to have patience for this job."

The pharmacy has a priority list for the many customers who receive medication there, Lunn said. "You've got your 'A' list for those people who are acutely ill, your 'B's' for those in uniform, your 'C' tickets for patients who are doctor entered, then you have your 'D's' for hardcopies," Lunn said. "We try to put this information out there, on flyers and things, but you still have about 100 people a day who want to know why it's taking so long. We close at six, but there's not too many days we'll be leaving around that time. We close our windows down, but everybody with a number needs to be seen. So let's say it's 6 o'clock and there's 100 people in the lobby. You're going to be there until 8 o'clock. This is the way it is Monday through Saturday, every day of the week."

Due to these hours, Lunn said he and his fellow 91Qs are responsible for doing PT on their own. He said these long days are just something that a pharmacy technician

needs to endure while keeping the best possible attitude. "If the pharmacy is hurting and you're in a green suit, you're not leaving," he said. "You'll pull your fair share of 12 hour days, but you just gotta suck it up."

But Lunn also said dealing with all these people is something he really enjoys about being a 91Q. He loves his job, and meeting people is the thing he said he enjoys most about it. "You meet a lot of people, and I'm one of those people who's about the small things," Lunn said. "You might be down, and you might be going through something, but you encounter a lot of people. There are a lot of retirees around here, and you can't imagine how many different personalities you encounter in one day. Some people just sit down and talk to you, while you're filling their prescription, which might take up to 15 minutes or so. And you sit there and listen to them, and you'll learn something, just little things. I'm a people person. Old people, they make you laugh."

Fort Gordon is Lunn's first duty station. He has been here two years and in the Army three. Though his father, Gregory, is the post command sergeant major for the Red Stone Arsenal, Ala., Lunn never intended to join the Army. In fact, he had a scholarship to go to college.

"I wasn't planning to go into the Army," Lunn admitted. "I had a baby at a very young age. It was a choice I made, to either be able to take care of my responsibilities and provide for my son Brian Jr., or go to school and not really be able to provide for

my son. So I chose to enlist and the recruiter went over the jobs I qualified for and pharmacy seemed appealing."

Lunn said his father did not push him into making the decision to enlist.

"He never brought the Army home with him," Lunn said. "A lot of people just expect you to know so much about the Army and think that your father made you do push-ups and stuff. He was always just Dad, even now. I might fear a sergeant major out of respect because that's the way the Army makes you, but when I see my dad he's just my dad. I didn't really appreciate his position until I came into the Army. I never knew, it was just like, 'My dad's in the Army.'"

In fact, Lunn's father traveled to Fort Gordon to pin his son's corporal rank on in early January. He has worked hard and is now a corporal promotable overseeing an important operation on post. He has not looked back since enlisting, and has only optimism, no regrets.

With the training he has received thus far, Lunn could work in a variety of jobs - obviously as a pharmaceutical technician, as a pharmaceutical sales representative, or, with some additional schooling, as a full-fledged pharmacist.

"I see the Army as endless opportunities," he said. "I can do a nursing program, so many things, even switch over to being an officer with only a two-year degree. The Army to me is beautiful. I don't see myself going back to the outside. My goal is to go green to gold and maybe do the RN program."

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Unit Sports Standings

AS OF APRIL 2

Team	Won	Lost	Team	Won	Lost	
Morning volleyball						
C-551st	2	0	B-551	1	3	
D-369th	2	1	D-551st	1	3	
B-447th	1	1	B-447th	0	4	
E-369th	1	2	C-369th	0	5	
B-551st	0	2	Battalion basketball			
Evening volleyball						
A-206	5	0	442nd	5	0	
HH C-513	4	0	63rd	4	1	
HQ and A-442	4	0	201st	3	2	
HHQ and A-551	3	1	447th	3	3	
C-73	3	2	551st (TNG)	3	3	
311S	2	2	551st	3	3	
NSGA	2	3	ANCOA	2	2	
C-551	2	4	USAG	2	3	
			369th	2	4	
			73rd	1	3	
			EAMC	0	4	

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- Major insurance plans accepted
- On-site optical services for glasses and contacts
- LASIK surgery preliminary assessments

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please call (706) 796-3723.

MCG
Eye Care Associates

Medical College of Georgia Health System
Augusta GA

Community Events

Singer wanted

The Signal Corps Band "Nueva Salsa" is looking for a vocalist for Cinco De Mayo. For information, call Sgt. 1st Class Alfredo Falu-Lopez at 791-3113.

OSC meets

The Fort Gordon Officer's Spouses Club will meet at 6:30 p.m. **April 13** at the Gordon Club.

The Fort Gordon Thrift Shop will sponsor a Spring Fashion Show. RSVP by **Tuesday** by calling Connie at 869-8231 or Erin at 771-5303.

AFCEA lunch

The Augusta-Fort Gordon Chapter of AFCEA is having its membership luncheon 11:30 a.m. **Monday** at the Gordon Club.

Guest speaker is Brig. Gen. Eric Schoomaker, Southeast Regional Medical Command and Eisenhower Army Medical Center commander.

Tickets cost \$10 for members, \$11 for nonmembers, and must be purchased by April 6.

Call Robbe Ostby at 793-3500 for information or to charge tickets by phone.

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.

Signal reunions

Members of the 8th Signal Battalion, 8th Infantry Division who were stationed at Rose Barracks, Bad Kreuznach, Germany, are invited to the second annual friendship reunion **May 20-23** in Augusta. For information go to www.8thsig.org.

The 17th Signal Battalion Association is having its 10th annual reunion **Sept. 16-19** in San Antonio, Texas.

For information, e-mail adjanssen@aol.com.

AUSA golf tourney

The annual Association of the United States Army golf tournament is **May 14** at the Gordon Lakes golf course.

Registration is 10 a.m.-12:15 p.m., followed by a shotgun start at 12:30 p.m. A barbecue lunch will be served from 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Entry is \$49 for non-members of Gordon Lakes,

\$39 for members. Mulligans also available for two for \$5.

Pre-register now by calling Cathi Murphy at 791-6429 (cathi.murphy@gdc4s.com) or Jenny Morris at 791-2955 (jennifer.morris@gdc4s.com) by May 7.

Graduate course offered

The Signal Regiment Graduate Education Program is offering a resident Information Technology Graduate Seminar in partnership with the University of Maryland University College **Saturday to June 12**.

The courses are offered in an executive seminar format, consisting of 10 weeks of Saturday resident classes. Seminar completion results in six graduate credits toward several UMUC information technology masters degree programs. The program is open to all Fort Gordon personnel and is supported by tuition assistance for military members. Registration is through April 9. To register, contact ITGS Program Manager Maj. Pier Durst at 791-8182 or pier.durst@us.army.mil, or go to www.gordon.army.mil/edu.

Story hour

Woodworth Library hosts story hour **Wednesdays** from 11 a.m.-noon.

Children of active and retired military, and DoD civilians are invited to participate. The program is designed for children ages 2 through 5.

Volunteer readers are also needed for story hour. For information, call Liz Knight or Joyce Daniels at 791-7323.

Bible study

The Fort Gordon Family Life Center presents a Bible study for adults titled *Family Life According to the Bible* from 9:30-10:30 a.m. **Sundays** at the Religious Education Center, Building 39709. Other classes are available for all ages. For information, call 791-4703.

Surviving military separation

Army Community Service offers a support group for deployed Soldiers' spouses. This is an opportunity for spouses to share ideas and strategies on how to cope with stress associated with the servicemember's absence.

The class is held from 1-2:30 p.m. the first **Wednesday** of each month in Darling Hall, Room 367. For information call 791-3579/7557.

BOSS events

Spring Ball/Fashion Show-BOSS is hosting a formal, semi-formal show **Saturday**. Cost is \$25 for couples, \$15 for singles. A

photographer will be on site. There will be door prizes. For information, contact Spc. Glenyatte King at 791-3051.

Business advice

The Service Corps of Retired Executives provides counseling and mentoring to business people starting or expanding a business.

SCORE is a non-profit, public service organization affiliated with the Small Business Administration; all services are free. For information, call 793-9998, 9 a.m.-noon Monday to Friday.

Month of the military child

The month of the military child celebration is 10 a.m.-2 p.m. **April 17** at the Youth Services Activity field.

Activities include face painting, arts and crafts, horseback riding, a rock climbing wall and more. All activities are free. For information, call 791-6500.

Tax preparation

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

The center is open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m., through **Monday**, and is located at the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate, Building 29718, Room 118.

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

Separating servicemembers

Servicemembers within one year of separating or two years of projected retirement from the military may contact the Army Career and Alumni Program for assistance.

All servicemembers leaving active duty with more than 180 days of active service, must receive the congressionally mandated pre-separation counseling.

Counseling must take place no later than 90 days prior to separation and covers available transition assistance services, rights and benefits. To schedule an appointment, call 791-7333, or go to www.gordon.army.mil/dhr/ACAP/acap.htm.

Orientation

A newcomer orientation is held **Tuesdays** and **Fridays** at 1 p.m. in Room 367, Darling Hall.

Bariatric support group

The Bariatric Support Group meets at 6:30 p.m. the **second Tuesday** of each month at Eisenhower Army Medical Center in the hospital auditorium on the first floor; the meeting begins at 7 p.m. The group is open to pre-op and post-op patients, and anyone interested in learning about the surgery.

Call Florrie Cox at 595-8330 for information.

APUS and American Military University

Floyd Maertens, a professor of Marketing and field representative for the American Public University System, will be available **April 22** at the Education Center,

Bldg. 21606, from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. to discuss distance learning programs offered.

All servicemembers, retirees and civilian employees and their dependents are invited to attend.

For information contact Maertens at (803) 865-9786 or fmaertens@apus.edu.

Employment workshop

A weekly workshop, *Tools of Employment*, is held 9-11 a.m. **Monday** mornings to assist in resume writing, job searching and interviewing techniques. The workshop meets in the Community Life Building, 33512.

For information, call 791-3579.

Armed Forces Day

The Georgia Golf Hall of Fame's Botanical Gardens is celebrating Armed Forces Day with free admission for servicemembers and their families from 9 a.m.-7 p.m. **May 15**. For information, call 724-4443.

ID section closes

The ID Card Section, Military Personnel Division, will be closed to customers **April 26 and 27**. The section is undergoing a conversion and upgrade of equipment. The ID Card Section will reopen on April 28 at 7:30 a.m.

Civilian of the Quarter nominations

The nominations for the Fort Gordon Civilian of the Quarter for the quarter ending June 30 must be submitted by close of business **June 15** to DHR, CPAC, ATTN: Mary Reid, via email, reidm@gordon.army.mil. Narrative should not exceed two pages. Nominations are being accepted for GS 9-11, NL 14-15, NS 12-17, WG 8-12, WL 7-10, WS 3-7, and NF 4.

PRWeb training

Training sessions for PRWeb will be in Dixon Hall, 2nd Floor, Room 220B. Each training session will be about 2 hours and only one session is required.

The date and times for the training is **April 19** from 9 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m.

Each session is limited to 18 individuals. To be trained, the director or commander must submit an e-mail to Terri Lucas at lucast@gordon.army.mil with the name of the person in the organization who has the authority to create or approve purchase request(s) for the organization. Include in the e-mail the name, phone number and e-mail address along with first and second choice for training time. The e-mail request for training must be submitted by the Director or Commander. Once the user has been scheduled, a confirmation e-mail will be sent to the individual and director or commander. Do not show up for class unless you have received an e-mail confirming your reservation.

For more information, contact Terri Lucas at lucast@gordon.army.mil or 791-1803.

FEW meeting

The next meeting of Federally Employed Women

The School Yard

Month of the military child

April is the Month of the Military Child. The Fort Gordon Child Development Center has the following activities planned:

Thursday and April 22 - Join your child from 3-4 p.m. for fun learning activities within their classroom.

April 23 - Military Day from 10-11:30 a.m. featuring military vehicles and a fire truck display in the parking lot of the CDC.

April 29 - A parade celebrating the military child.

For information, call the Child Development Center at 791-2701/6761.



(FEW), Garden City Chapter, will be **Wednesday** at 11:30 a.m. in the Gordon Room of the Gordon Club. Bill Wren of the Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation, will present the program "The Importance of Recreation in your Life." Guests are welcome.

For more information, contact Carol Sylvester, EEO Office, 791-4551.

Recruit the recruiter

The Recruit the Recruiter Team from Headquarters, U.S. Army Recruiting Command, Fort Knox, Ky., will brief on the challenges, benefits and opportunities to become recruiters. Briefings will be held at Studio B, in Nelson Hall on **May 4** at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. and at Olmstead Hall on **May 5** at 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. Attendance by all NCOs is highly encouraged. This briefing in no way obligates you for recruiting duty, a personal interview following the briefing will determine qualifications. More information can be found at web site www.usarec.army.mil/hq/recruiter or contact Sgt. 1st Class Mumpfield at (502) 626-0210 DSN: 536-0210.

For information regarding the briefing contact Master

Sgt. Timothy Brock at Post Retention 791-7387.

Lifestyle seminar

Army Community Service, Mobilization and Deployment Program will present a day of workshops, tailored to assist Family Readiness Groups, commanders and first sergeants, spouses seeking employment, and active duty members preparing for retirement **April 27** from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Pleasure Profile and Lifescaping Workshops will be in the Gordon Club, Victoria Room. The presenter will be Kathleen O'Beirne, who describes herself as an Army brat and a Navy wife, and author of books about the military lifestyle.

To register for the workshops or childcare, please call ACS, 791-3579/0795.

Holocaust program

The Regimental NCO Academy's Advanced NCO course will host a Holocaust: Day of Remembrance program **April 22** at noon in the Gordon Club's North Room.

Guest speaker will be Joseph Korn, editor Abe's Story: A Holocaust Memoir.

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.

April 9-11
Today-Twisted (R)
Saturday- Confessions of a Teenage Drama Queen (PG-13)
Saturday-Eurotrip (R)
Sunday-Confessions of a Teenage Drama Queen (PG-13)

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

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Fort Gordon Report

COMING UP

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

- **President Bush visits Fort Campbell**
- **Soldiers train Iraqi Civil Defense Corps**
- **Assignment Incentive Pay for Korea**

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 **April 12**.

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

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

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Sports & Leisure

Sports UPDATE

Sports news

Unit Level Softball – The Unit Level Men's Softball Program is **May 4 to July 4**. The Unit Level Women's program is **May 4 to June 4**.

Track and Field Championships – The Track and Field championship is **Monday to April 23**.

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

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 Non-commissioned 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.

AUSA golf tourney

The annual Association of the United States Army golf tournament is **May 14** at the Gordon Lakes golf course.

Registration is 10 a.m.-12:15 p.m., followed by a shotgun start at 12:30 p.m. A barbecue lunch will be served from 11 a.m.-12:15 p.m.

Entry is \$49 for non-members of Gordon Lakes, \$39 for members. Mulligans also available for two for \$5.

Pre-register now by calling Cathi Murphy at 791-6429 (cathi.murphy@gdc4s.com) or Jenny Morris at 791-2955 (jennifer.morris@gdc4s.com) by May 7.

OSC flea market/ Cinco de Mayo

Space sales for the semiannual Officers' Spouses Club flea market begin **Tuesday** in the Thrift Shop behind the main Post Exchange from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. They will also be held there on **Thursday April 20, 22, 27 and 29** at the same time.

Flea market space sales will also be held in the main lobby of the Post Exchange from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on **Friday, April 17, 23, 24, 28-30**.

The flea market will be held **May 1** on Barton Field from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. In the event of rain, it will be held **May 2** at the same time and place.

For more information, please call (706) 481-8065 or 791-2779.

The flea market is part of Cinco de Mayo festivities that begin **April 29** from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. with a carnival on Barton Field. The festival ends **May 2** at 7 p.m.

Other activities over the four days include: a car show, pony rides, petting zoo, concessions, live music and a fireworks show at 10 p.m. on **May 1**. Cinco de Mayo is open to the public.

For more information, call (706) 791-3639.

73rd putts for AER

Spc. Sam Smith
Signal staff

Golfers played a tournament Friday at the Gordon Lakes Golf Course to support a worthy cause.

The tournament, coordinated by Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Millward, A and Headquarters Co., 73rd Ordnance Battalion, raised at least \$1,300 for the Army Emergency Relief Fund.

"We do this to help AER," Millward said, "because it has provided for our Soldiers."

The Secretary of War and Army Chief of Staff established AER in 1942. It is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping Soldiers, retirees and their dependents. AER does this by giving Soldiers and retirees with emergency, interest-free loans.

The 73rd Ordnance Battalion, an advanced individual training unit, sponsored this tournament. According to Capt. Tony Sherrill, A and Headquarters Co., 73rd Ordnance Battalion, AIT Soldiers who are receiving steady income for the first time in their lives especially find this helpful.

"I've seen (how many) requests (for assistance) come across my desk. AER definitely 'helps the Army take care of its own'," Sherrill said quoting the AER motto.



Photo by Spc. Sam Smith

First Lt. Al Horridge, 73rd Ordnance Battalion S1, drives the ball toward the hole as part of the annual 73rd Ordnance Golf Tournament held to support Army Emergency Relief. This year the event raised more than \$1,300.

Shades of Green reopens Walt Disney World doors to military families

Tim Hipps
Army News Service

More military members and their families can exclaim "I'm going to Disney World," thanks to the recent expansion of Shades of Green Armed Forces Recreation Center on Walt Disney World Resort.

Brig. Gen. Robert Decker, commander of the U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center, served as master of ceremonies for a Shades of Green grand reopening March 31 at the hotel's Porte Cochere.

"This is not just a grand opening, it's a celebration of Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines because that's what these properties take care of," said John McLaurin, deputy assistant secretary of the Army for Human Resources. "The Shades of Green here represents the Army's latest commitment to providing high-quality morale, welfare and recreation opportunities to members of the U.S. Armed Forces."

Charles Abell, principal deputy undersecretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness said the resort

provides much-needed respite from the rigors of military duty.

"This is an occasion that reaffirms the Department of Defense's commitment to provide quality, wholesome and affordable recreation opportunities to members of U.S. forces who have and who continue to underwrite the peace and stability of our nation," Abell said.

With the reopening, the resort has more than doubled in size with the addition of 299 rooms to the previous 287, plus a 500-seat ballroom, two new restaurants, and a second heated swimming pool. The upgraded complex also better accommodates buses that shuttle guests around Disney's property, separate from the flow of traffic near the hotel's check-in area.

Shades of Green is adjacent to Disney's Palm Golf Course, home of the PGA Tour's FUNAI Classic, and just outside the gates of Mickey Mouse's famous house. Another one of Disney's five championship 18-hole golf courses and a nine-hole executive layout are within walking distance.

The hotel features two

lighted tennis courts, hot tub, children's pool and play area, lounge and sports bar, banquet accommodations, gift shops, video arcade, laundry facilities, fitness center and automated teller machines.

Guests are provided transportation to all Walt Disney World attractions and early entry into select venues inside the Magic Kingdom. Epcot, Disney-MGM Studios and Disney's Animal Kingdom Theme Park are just minutes away.

Self-supporting and operated with non-appropriated funds, Shades of Green is reserved for active duty and retired members of the uniformed services, Reserves and National Guard, as well as active and retired Department of Defense civilians and their families.

Room rates are based on rank and range from \$70 to \$225 per night for a standard room and \$82 to \$119 for a poolside room.

"The more junior enlisted you are, the better your savings," Melissa Colvin, Shades of Green acting general manager, explained. "You can't find our room rates at any other Walt



Photo by Douglas Ide

Mickey Mouse joins the festivities at the Shades of Green Armed Forces Recreation Center reopening ceremony March 31.

Disney World Resort."

For room reservations at Shades of Green, call 888-593-2242 or fax to 407-824-3665. The hotel's direct number is 407-824-3400 and fax is 407-824-3460. An online reservation system is coming soon.

Reservations are accepted

up to one year in advance. Six to eight months in advance traditionally is required to secure a room. Holidays and long weekends tend to get booked a full year in advance.

Editor's note: Tim Hipps is assigned to USACFSC Public Affairs.

ADVERTISING SECTION

At EASE

Events - Crossword - Kiddie Corner - Restaurant Review - Classifieds

Citizen Classified Ads

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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
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Secretarial Services	170
Lawn & Garden Care	180
Miscellaneous Services	190

200-299 NOTICES	
Business Opportunities	200
Lost & Found	210
Miscellaneous	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	450
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

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

IN HOME CHILD CARE has two openings, 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Monday-Friday. Call Patricia DeLaigle at 706-554-6410.

NEED A BABY SITTER for the weekends? Mother of two available Fridays around 6:30 p.m. Anytime Saturday and Sunday. Sharon Atkinson 478-569-9869 or 466-2015.

110 Domestic Services

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210 Lost & Found

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

225 COMMUNITY EVENTS

AUGUSTA STATE UNIVERSITY CONTINUING EDUCATION Monday-Wednesday, April 19 - May 5 Computer Literacy I. Tuesday, April 20-27, Garden Design: Planting. Wednesday, April 21-May 26, Beginning Shag. Wednesday, April 28 - June 16, Intermediate Ballroom Dance. Thursday, April 29-June 17, Beginning Ballroom. Tuesday, May 4-25, Stained Glass. Tuesday/Thursday, May 4-27, Basic ICD-9 Coding. For more information call 706-737-1636 or www.ced.aug.edu

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 BAPTIST CHURCH WOMEN CONFERENCE 2004 April 23-24. Kick off Friday, 7 p.m. Call 706-722-1031 for more information.

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.

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 have 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.

BACKUP JOB PLANNING

Certify as a basic CDL Truck Driver, an Owner-Operator, a Heavy Equipment Operator, or H.E. plus Truck Driver. Begin Phase-1 home study now and complete phase-2 residence training during leave. A CDL in your wallet or purse is a backup job plan with nationwide acceptance. **NTI courses are approved for 100% up-front military TA**

Call 706-495-3099
or email inquiries to: backupjobplan@earthlink.net

300 Help Wanted

\$250 TO \$500 A WEEK Will train to work at home. Helping the US government file HUD/FHA mortgages refunds. No experience necessary. Call toll free 1-866-537-2907.

CHURCH CUSTODIAN needed immediately in lead position. 1-9 p.m. with alternating Sundays. Must have strong background in cleaning abilities. Apply Sizemore Janitorial, 1369 Reynolds Street, Augusta, EOE.

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.

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.

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

PART TIME EVENING POSITIONS AVAILABLE in Fort Gordon/Wrightsboro Road area. General cleaners and floor maintenance jobs available. Apply Sizemore Janitorial, 1369 Reynolds Street, Augusta, EOE.

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.

TOP PAY WITH A TOP CARRIER

—Solo Starting Pay Now Up To **.41** cpm

—Team Starting Pay Now Up To **.45** cpm

—Owner Operators Make Up To **\$1.45** per mile
Pay Increase Beginning In March

CALL NOW FOR DETAILS!

An Opportunity for Every Driver: Solos, Teams, Owner Operators, Experienced Drivers, Student Graduates, Lease Purchase, Small Fleets

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1-800-363-7364

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 29001 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 _____

320 Wanted to Buy

A MOTOR FOR 1998 Automatic Chrysler Concorde. 706-556-1060.

ARROWHEAD ARTIFACTS COLLECTOR would like to buy collection or nice size items. 864-447-8590.

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

WANTED \$10 PICK UP BODY For 1987, 1988 or 1989 for a four cylinder. 478-569-4016.

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

.99 ACRE HOME SITE Scrub Oaks Road, call Mike Smith Forestry and Realty LLC 706-466-2714.

.94 ACRE LOT Watkins Pond Road, call Mike Smith Forestry and Realty LLC 706-466-2714 (mobile).

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

402 Lots & Land

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

BEECH ISLAND, SC 5.22 acres plus mobile home, power pole, water. 706-738-7545 or 306-4874.

BURKE COUNTY 10.5 ACRES on Briar Creek, Keysville area, beautiful woods, high and dry, road frontage. 1987, 1988 or 1989 for a four cylinder. \$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

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

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

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

RED HILL AREA 7.39 acres, all wooded. Frontage on Sardis Road/SR23. \$16,000 plus closing. 478-982-3478.

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.

GRAND OPENING

OF OUR NEW LOCATION

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Awareness Center

116 Shaw Street, Martinez, GA 30907
(Off of Martinez Blvd. Next To The Augusta Telephone Co.)
Announces:

DARLEN-DE R.H.
Internationally known registered
hypnotherapist with 30 years experience

Now is the time to make those positive changes in your life!
HYPNOSIS & COUNSELING

- Losing Weight
- Smoking
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- Relieving Stress or Pain
- Insomnia
- Memory & Concentration
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That's Your Business

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860-8331

405 Homes For Sale

171 CACTUS ROAD 9.33 acres, brick ranch with formal living and dining room, fireplace, large recreation room, pool, porch, double garage. \$179,900. Barbara Sanders 706-506-2264 or 1-800-558-1775 Prudential Beazley Real Estate.

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 or 706-554-4395.

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.

ATTENTION HOMEOWNER Got equity? Behind on payments? Need to sell? Local investor searching for minimum 3/2 in nice neighborhood. Call Michelle at 706-560-2640 or 706-414-0205.

BRICK RANCH 2,300 square feet, three bedrooms, two car garage, deck, sprinkler, privacy fence, bonus room, formal dining, eat-in kitchen, master bedroom suite, gas heat. 706-863-4987.

COLUMBIA COUNTY For sale by owner. 4170 Bridlewood trail, beautiful 1,900 square feet, three bedrooms, 2.5 baths, fireplace with gas logs, large kitchen, breakfast area, large corner lot, extra large deck with bench seating, landscaped yard. Two car garage with additional parking pad, security and sprinkler system, installed playground. \$141,900. Call Tracy Wallace 706-399-3089.

COUNTRY LIVING Two story, four bedrooms, 1.29 acres, barn, Gough. Janice Morris Realty, 706-437-8800.

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

FOR SALE BY OWNER New house, 340 Lee Street, Millen. Three bedrooms, two full baths, large laundry room, central heat and air, fully enclosed carport, cement driveway, ceiling fans all rooms, cable and phone jacks all rooms. \$55,000. 478-982-5835 after 5 p.m. or call 478-982-3217 days. Owner lives next door.

HIGH CEILINGS Beautiful wood work, older home, completely updated, three bedrooms, three full baths. Janice Morris Realty, 706-437-8800.

HOUSE FOR SALE BY OWNER or for rent. 906 Park Avenue, Sardis, GA. 1-877-438-5245.

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

LARGE OLDER HOME Satin-inlay wood floors, high ceiling, large rooms. 3,800+ square feet, large lot. Janice Morris Realty, 706-437-8800.

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.

NORTH BURKE COUNTY Four bedrooms, living/dining, den with fireplace, over three acres, Poole Melton Road. Janice Morris Realty, 706-437-8800.

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

415 Mobile Homes For Sale

\$8,000. 1998 GENERAL 14x70. Very clean. Very good condition. Two bedrooms, one bath. Call 478-982-2816 leave message, or 912-687-5300. Must be moved.

\$15,500 FIRM Four bedrooms, two baths, 24x60, clean and very good condition. Stove, central air included. Call 478-982-2816 leave message or 912-687-5300. Must be moved.

\$11,000 2000 Fleetwood, 16x80. Clean, perfect condition, appliances included, central heat and air. Three bedrooms, two baths. Call 478-982-2816 leave message or 912-687-5300. Must be moved.

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.

1993 HORTON 14X70 Two bedrooms, two baths, central heat and air, appliances, oak cabinets, underpinned. \$9,000 or best offer. 706-554-1163 or 551-1022.

16X80 HORTON Very good condition. Two bedrooms, two baths. \$14,500. Pager 706-794-0147. Home after 6 p.m. 706-554-6439.

FORECLOSURE Three bedrooms, two baths, 1998 mobile home on two acres, \$42,900. 3602 B&B Lane, Millen. Call Allison at ReMax Greater Atlanta. 678-784-4459.

LAND WITH MOBILE HOME Five acres, beautifully landscaped, county water, plus fully functional well and septic. Has 1996 16x80 Chandalier model home, total electric, air, deck, located in North Augusta near Mount Vintage. \$32,000. 706-793-0368.

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.

420 Miscellaneous

GROVETOWN Columbia County investment property and commercial potential. Three mobile homes on 1/2 acre land, fenced with large storage shed, city water and sewer, tenant pays utilities, natural gas and electric. 706-863-8665.

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

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

HOME FOR RENT Three bedrooms, one bath, washroom, stove, refrigerator, central air, alarm, fenced corner, 1956 Minor Place. \$475 per month, \$500 deposit. 706-798-2900 pager 706-730-2900.

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

NEW TOWNHOUSE Two bedrooms, two baths, all appliances, no pets/no smokers. \$695 month plus deposit. Off Wheeler Road and I20. 706-210-0997 or 951-2057.

WEST AUGUSTA Three bedrooms, two full baths, living room, den, kitchen, dining area, screened patio, open patio, carport, tri-level, with large fenced back yard, sprinkler system, storage areas and large front yard. No pets. \$720 deposit, \$720 month. 706-737-7250 ext. 200.

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.

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

435 Homes For Rent

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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.

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

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KITCHENS
FOR
RATES
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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.

THREE BEDROOM two bath with appliances. Newly renovated. Two acres, fenced. South of Millen, Highway 121 and Edgar Lane Road. \$450 plus deposit. References required. 478-982-8627.

TWO BEDROOMS, one bath, Cloverdale Subdivision, one mile from fort. Available now. New carpet, big yard, central heat and air, storage building. 706-738-7545 or 306-4874.

447 Rooms

ROOMS 10 minutes to Gate 5 and Augusta Tech on fishing lake. \$80 per week. 706-796-0344.

450 Vacation Rentals

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

DAYTONA BEACH VACATION June 12 - 19. Ocean front pool, sauna hottub, grill, party room, sleeps four, fully furnished. \$500. 706-855-6441.

455 Miscellaneous Rentals

BRICK WAREHOUSE FOR RENT 3,000 square feet, two baths, private parking lot, fenced. 706-738-7545 or 306-4874.

SHARE RENTAL Three bedrooms, two baths, 10 minutes to Augusta Tech and Gate 5 on fishing lake. 706-796-0344.

470 Appliances

PCS MOVING Washer/dryer \$250, king bed frame, \$30. Chain link fence, 185 feet with two gates, \$100. Satellite dish, \$25. Computer desk, \$75. Microwave, \$15. Porch swing, \$35. 706-792-8048.

WHIRLPOOL 13 CYCLE AUTOMATIC WASHER and matching Whirlpool seven cycle dryer. Like new and only \$250 for the pair. 706-650-1254.

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\$375
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FOREST RIDGE
APARTMENTS**

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

540 Furniture

42" ROUND DINETTE TABLE with leaf and four swivel chairs. \$75. 706-556-1060.

BED: KING SIZE plush mattress set. Brand new in plastic. \$199. 706-533-0544.

BED: QUEEN SIZE plush top mattress set. New in plastic. \$135. 706-533-0544.

BEDROOM SET Five pieces, off white, twin bed, includes box springs, mattress, headboard, footboard, six drawer dresser with mirror, computer desk with overhead hutch. 706-650-8116.

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

DINING TABLE Cushman original. Made from Canadian Birch. Drop sides and extra leaf. Will seat from 2-12. Bench, maple, seats four. Good condition. \$75. 706-863-1044 after 6 p.m.

RATTAN DINING ROOM SUITE with six chairs and lighted china cabinet, \$700. Heavy duty rollaway bed, \$50. 706-541-0563.

SIX PIECE RATTAN BREAKFAST SET \$200. 706-733-0989.

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.

BED: KING SIZE plush mattress set. Brand new in plastic. \$199. 706-533-0544.

BED: QUEEN SIZE plush top mattress set. New in plastic. \$135. 706-533-0544.

BEDROOM SET Five pieces, off white, twin bed, includes box springs, mattress, headboard, footboard, six drawer dresser with mirror, computer desk with overhead hutch. 706-650-8116.

590 Musical Items

SPINET PIANO with bench. \$1,000. 706-733-0989.

600 Other Electronics

INFINITI FLOOR SPEAKERS \$125 pair. 706-869-8936.

SONY FIVE DISC CAROUSEL with remote. Works great, \$50. 706-869-8931.

610 Pets & Animals

FREE DOGS Males. Call 478-982-1297.

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 DBA registered, 13 weeks. Only females left. \$400. 706-793-4051.

THREE RABBITS Two does, one buck. Two wire cages. All for \$50. 706-798-8141.

TWO BLACK LAB PUPS Females, eight weeks old. AKC registered. \$150 each. 706-554-7623.

WANTED ONE FEMALE DONKEY 478-982-1297.

690 YARD SALES

ESTATE SALE APRIL 10 8 a.m. - 2 p.m., 827 Liberty Street. Some furniture, lamps, glassware, TVs, kitchenware, housewares, ladies clothing, sewing supplies, lots of miscellaneous.

700 Miscellaneous For Sale

10 FEET CONVEYOR WHEELS for unloading trucks. \$50. 706-556-1060 or 951-8188.

AFRICAN HAIR BRAIDING For salon quality cornrows, micro braids, invisible braids, box braids, kinky twists and flat twists without high salon prices call Cle-rece 706-799-0453.

BRIO WOODEN TRAIN LAYOUT Extremely educational, installed on knock-down table with painted layout board, two storage drawers, it consists of several pieces of rolling stock, bridges, turnouts, structures and people. \$250 makes this a real steal. 706-650-1254.

CERAMIC ELEPHANT \$50. 706-733-0989.

CLOWN PRINT by Red Skelton. \$150. 706-733-0989.

CRAFTSMAN 5.3 HP Self propelled lawn mower mulch vacuum rear bag. \$50. 706-793-5509.

DIAMOND PLATE TRUCK BED Tool box. \$100. 706-495-9611.

LANDSCAPING CONCRETE CYLINDERS the size of a three liter bottle, weighs 25 to 30 pounds each. \$1 each. 706-556-1060 or 951-8188.

MURRAY PUSH MOWER mulch vacuum rear bag. \$40. 706-793-5509.

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2515 Center West Pkwy.
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FAX: 737-8867

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ONE MONTH FREE**

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Convenient to shopping,
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By Appointment Only

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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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TWO BEDROOM • TWO BATH DELUXE APARTMENT
\$549/Mo. - 1 Year Lease*
\$569/Mo. - 3, 6 & 9 Mo. Lease*

Features:
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Multi-Family Crime Free Housing Program

**706-863-2048
NO DEPOSIT FOR MILITARY**

1700 Valley Park Court
Augusta, Georgia 30909
e-mail:
gplaceapt03@comcast.net

**(706) 733-7829
FAX
(706) 736-4878**

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- Sparkling swimming pool
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- Large playground areas
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**Huge 1-2-3 Bedroom
Apartments**

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All American Ford Sale

\$0 Down on all vehicles
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 Only **\$289** Per Mo.*
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2003 NISSAN SENTRA GXE
 Auto Trans., 22K Miles, B9559
\$179* PER MONTH
 ONLY **\$10,900**

2002 DODGE CARAVAN SE
 Loaded, Only 19,000 Miles, #49644
\$229* PER MONTH
 ONLY **\$13,300**

2003 FORD MUSTANG GT
 Only 3500 Miles, Leather, Like New, #B9508
\$289** PER MONTH
 ONLY **\$17,300**

1999 CADILLAC DEVILLE
 Leather, Vintage Edition, #48165A
\$259* PER MONTH
 ONLY **\$12,900**

2004 F-150 LARIAT SUPERCAB 4X4
SAVE THOUSANDS

2002 EXPLORER XLT SPORT TRAC
 Super Nice, #48140A
\$329* PER MONTH
 ONLY **\$18,800**

2003 E350 XLT EXT 15 PASSENGER VAN
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\$19,750

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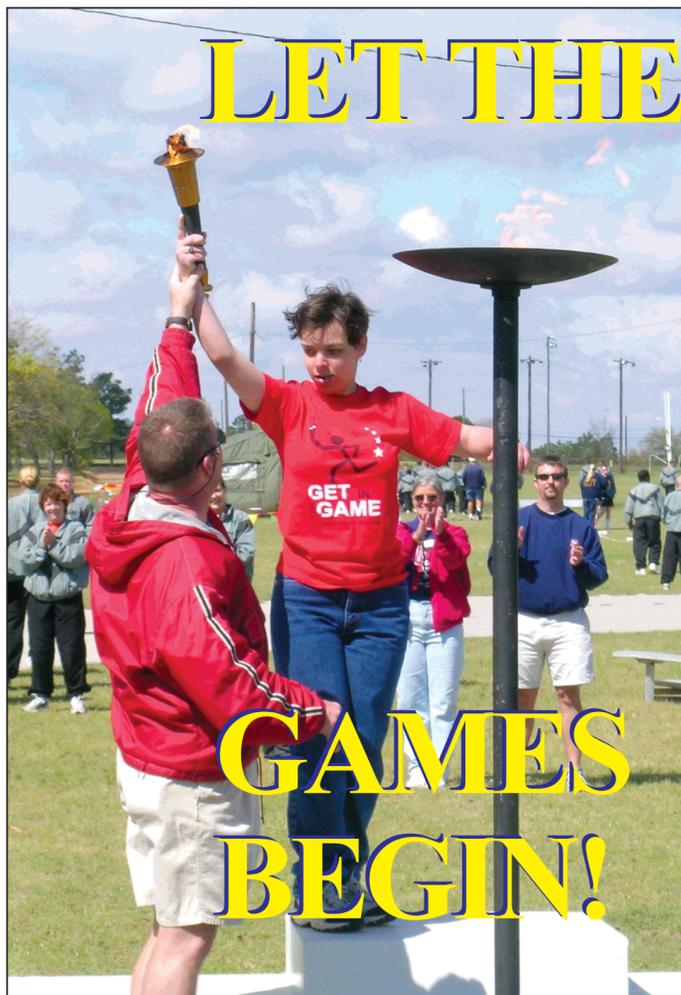
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Spectrum



Courtesy Photo

A Special Olympian lights the ceremonial torch marking the beginning of the Special Olympics, which has been held on post over 25 years.

Pvt. Armando Monroig
Signal Staff

Courageous, inspiring, motivatingcall it what you want. The Area 9 Special Olympics Spring Games, held at Barton Field's quarter-mile track March 31 truly was, well ...special.

About 800 mentally and physically challenged competitors from 5 to 60 years old, from seven different schools, representing seven different counties in Georgia, participated in the event.

The spring games included events such as track and field events like the 50, 100, 200, and 400-meter dash, standing broad jump, running long jump and shot-put.

Other events were the target toss, 25-meter assisted walk, scooter board race, bean bag toss and tennis ball toss.

The results from this event will help determine which athletes advance to the state games in May.

Laurie Ott and Richard Rogers, Channel 12 news anchors, were on hand as masters of ceremony for the opening ceremony.

"We are honored and extremely happy that you have, again, chosen Fort Gordon as the site for this region's Special Olympics," said Brig. Gen. Janet Hicks, United States Army Signal Center and Fort Gordon post commanding general, to the crowd of over 1,000 athletes and spectators.

"We look forward, with great excitement and anticipation, every year to hosting the games," she said.

Without the dedication of the special education personnel in area public school systems, the volunteer efforts of the athletes' families, and civic organizations that support local and county games, she said.

"Most of all, this great

event could not take place without you, our courageous and very special athletes," Hicks said. "To all of you I say, you are all winners in our eyes."

Prior to the games beginning, the athletes chanted in unison the Special Olympics oath, "Let me win but if I can't win, let me be brave in the attempt," followed by Hicks' announcement, "Let the games begin."

The event, one of the largest area games in the state, took about three months to organize, from grouping athletes by ability to meeting with local coordinators from each county in the area, according to Arthur Dickerson, Area 9 Special Olympics director.

"We adjust the events to meet the needs of the athletes," he said.

The Special Olympics have been held on Fort Gordon for over 25 years.

"(The post) can supply so many volunteers," said Dickerson. "Area 9 really appreciates what Fort Gordon does for us."

Many of those Soldiers, who volunteered their time to come out and support the Special Olympics, did so to give back to the community and to encourage the participants.

"I just came out here to cheer them on and to watch them perform," said Sgt. Fatu Diagne, from Social Work Services at Dwight D. Eisenhower Army Medical Center.

She said it was an excellent event and great seeing the Army and other branches of service participate by helping out in this event.

"It's a joy to do," Staff Sgt. Dennis Jones, Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course student, said of his first time helping with the Special Olympics.

"Seeing all the kids get so excited competing against

each other - it makes me feel good to be able to help them out."

"It was a great experience. I wish I would have done it sooner," he said.

While standing on the sidelines during the Parade of Athletes, one of the Special Olympians ran up to Jones and gave him a hug which helped ease some of his earlier apprehension.

"That sort of calmed me down," said Jones adding he would encourage others to participate.

Renita Savage, an instructor for the 31U course and volunteer, said this was the second time helping out with this event.

"It's an opportunity to give back to the community," she said.

Savage said helping out with an event like this, helps put things into perspective for her and many others who may take things for granted that Special Olympians truly appreciate.

"Just being involved in such an event is a positive impact for me and the community," she said.

One of the Special Olympians took time out to talk about his first experience participating in this event.

"I love it," said 40-year-old James Clifford who took 5th place in a running event, and 7th place in a softball toss competition.

Many of the Special Olympians had chaperones with them at the event. Eighteen-year-old Allen Jones, senior at Crosscreek High School in Augusta, and several other students attended the games to support Crosscreek High School Special Education students participating in the games.

"I know that it makes them feel good," he said adding that it makes him feel good to watch them have fun and enjoy themselves.



Photos by Pvt. Armando Monroig

Athletes from Richmond and McDuffie counties compete in the 12- to 15-year-old age bracket at one of the sprinting events held during the Special Olympics.



(Above) Sgt. 1st Class Darron Ison, HHC U.S. Army Garrison, and others in attendance applaud the Special Olympians as they participate in the Parade of Athletes before the start of competition.



(Left) One of the softball-throw competitors throws her hands up in jubilation after receiving her ribbon for placing in the top seven of her heat.

(Below) Participants of a speed-walk race hustle to the finish line as spectators, which included servicemembers from all branches, family and friends of the Special Olympians, supported their success.

