

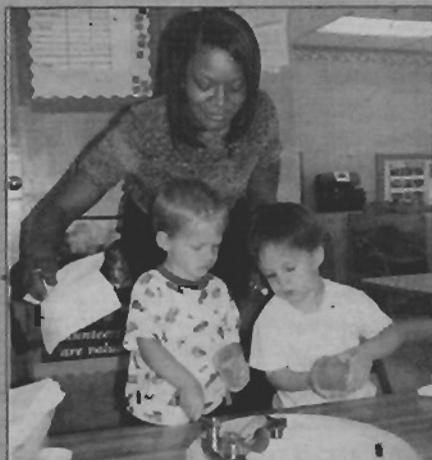
# Redstone Rocket

VOL. 51 No. 20

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May 22, 2002

## Just for kids



Children's center  
earns accreditation  
**Page 8**

## Army in action



THAAD missile system  
on time, within budget  
**Page 14**

## Win or lose



Bravo Company Bulldogs  
roll into postseason tourney  
**Page 19**

## Ground Zero leaves lasting images

New York City visitor  
sees Sept. 11 debris

By SKIP VAUGHN  
Rocket editor  
skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

A hushed silence fell upon the onlookers as they approached the observation ramp at Ground Zero. No doubt their thoughts were with the victims of the terrorist attack at the World Trade Center months before.

Eric B. Thomas sits at his desk in the Sparkman Center and remembers his feelings as he looked out at the rubble from Sept. 11 while visiting the New York City site during a business trip earlier this year. A senior logistics analyst with Dynetics Inc., he traveled to Fort Monmouth, N.J., in February to deliver a presentation for the Army's single stock fund modernization efforts.

"I saw the site where the Twin Towers stood and the cleanup effort that was still ongoing," said Thomas, a contractor for Logistics Support Activity. "I saw the collateral damage to all the buildings surrounding the site and I saw the outpouring of support. People had left flowers and T-shirts and all kinds of memorabilia to support the folk of New York, particularly the firemen and policemen."

Thomas talked with street vendors who had witnessed the attack. He talked to a young policeman, who appeared to have aged from the stress in its aftermath. "He looked like he wanted to come back to Alabama with me," Thomas said.

"It was my first visit to New York, and of course to be there under those circumstances was a far cry from whatever I could imagine."

During his three-hour visit Feb. 21, Thomas saw a gaping cavity of earth filled with debris which appeared to be about the length of a football field. The site was surrounded by material, boards and screens, to keep out intruders. He saw workers clearing debris which was being hauled away in trucks. Twenty-five people at a time could walk up the ramp to observe the site.

"The size of the area not only occupied by the Twin Towers but by the other buildings that collapsed and had to come down was more massive than I thought," Thomas said. "The massive number of people that were working at the site was also impressive. Five months after it happened, it was awesome to see the effort still ongoing to

get the site cleaned up."

He remembered the silence and the somber expression of the onlookers. "It's like everyone knew this was a serious situation, a serious blow to America. And that's the way people conducted themselves," he said.

Thomas, 55, a Birmingham native with a son in the military, recalled his own thoughts that day. "It made me feel closer to other Americans of all walks of life," he said. "I felt I fit right into that melting pot that America is. Even though it happened in New York, it impacted all Americans. And being there made me feel an integral part of that group."

"That could have been your family (among the victims)," he said. "It was a very emotional visit, it really, really was. It really had a great emotional impact on me."

He also thought about the U.S. service-members engaged in the war against terrorism. "It made me want to do an even better job to ensure that the U.S. Army is ready to respond to acts of terrorism and any kind of act that threatens the American way of life," he said. "And of course some anger was in there, too."

Since visiting Ground Zero, Thomas has collected 27 photographs that were taken

See Images on page 16



Eric B. Thomas collection

TOWERS ABLAZE— The towers of the World Trade Center burn after slammed into by hijacked airliners Sept. 11, 2001.



Eric B. Thomas collection

RESCUE EFFORT— Workers conduct rescue and cleanup efforts at Ground Zero within a few days of the terrorist attack in New York City.

## Nation celebrates Armed Forces

Since 1950 our nation has celebrated the third Saturday in May as Armed Forces Day, an occasion to reflect upon and recognize the devotion to duty and service of our men and women in uniform.

It is a day to remind all Americans of our military members' contributions in guarding and maintaining the liberties we cherish. The past year has tested your skills and abilities as America and its allies wage a war on terrorism that we did not seek but will not lose. As President Bush noted, "We are called to defend freedom against ruthless enemies. And once again, we need steadfastness, courage and hope." As our armed forces have so often, you are meeting that challenge.

Since Sept. 11, America has drawn renewed strength from our values.

Through the service of our military members, and the support of the American people, friends and foes alike know that we are a nation united for freedom. In the president's words, "The battle is now joined on many fronts. We will not waver; we will not tire; we will not falter; and we will not fail."

On Armed Forces Day 2002, the American people express their thanks to all soldiers, sailors, airmen, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen for your continuing role in securing the blessings of liberty for all of us. Whether on tarmacs or targeting computers, flight decks or foot patrols, you are patriots all, and the nation is exceptionally grateful for your dedicated and noble service.

Donald H. Rumsfeld  
Secretary of defense

## Advanced Patriot missile fails to destroy target

Initial data collected following the last test of the Patriot Advanced Capability-3 (PAC-3) missile system at White Sands Missile Range, N.M., indicated that a PAC-3 missile intercepted a Patriot-as-a-Target missile. Subsequent analysis indicates that the PAC-3 made contact with the target but failed to

destroy it. Since the warhead wasn't destroyed, it won't be counted as a successful intercept.

Data from the April 25 test is still being evaluated. Prior to this test, PAC-3 missed only one ballistic missile target in eight attempts. Another operational test is planned later this month.

## Association of U.S. Army developing year's agenda

Ideas sought from field for national resolutions

The Association of the United States Army plans to dedicate its 2002 National Resolutions to the military and civilian men and women of the armed forces.

According to Paul Elliott, board member of the Huntsville-Redstone Chapter of AUSA and a member of the national organization's resolutions committee, the res-

olutions are AUSA's objectives for the coming year.

"Subjects are proposed and the formal resolution is developed by the Resolutions Committee," Elliott said. "Once the resolutions are approved and finalized, AUSA adopts and publishes them, then distributes them to all members of Congress, Defense Department leaders and AUSA chapters."

Elliott said these resolutions shape

See Agenda on page 6

## Swimming pool pass works at gates

With the pools opening (May 25), how can families of DA civilians and contractors come on post without the sponsor having to go to the gate to take them to the pool? When I asked about getting a spouses badge, I was told they would not issue them for pool and gym use. You will lose lots of money if DAC families can't get on post this summer.

Name withheld by request

Editor's note: Redstone Arsenal Support Activity provided the following response. "Thanks for the opportunity to respond to concerns regarding entry into Redstone Arsenal to utilize our swimming pools this summer (soon to be one of our most popular MWR services, no doubt). You are not the first person who's asked us this question, and we're hopeful your letter and this response will help alleviate the concerns and get more folks buying our season pool passes — a great deal for the family.

"Civilian spouses and family members who do not possess a security badge most certainly will be authorized access to the Arsenal. Procedures have been established with the Provost Mar-

shal Office which will allow the sponsor, who is purchasing the season family pass, to place each family member's name on individual pre-numbered passes which will correspond to an assigned number for each person on a master 'Pool Pass Roster.' This roster will be updated and forwarded to the Provost Marshal Office routinely and distributed to the Arsenal gates. These individual family passes will essentially become the authorization to proceed into Redstone Arsenal and utilize the pools. A similar procedure was used this past fall and winter for hunters to access the Arsenal, and it seemed to work just fine.

"The pools will open at 11 a.m. Saturday, May 25. For more info, please call outdoor recreation at 876-HUNT.

"Incidentally, RASA and MWR management are now working a plan to develop and begin issuance of a specific 'MWR User' ID card for all individuals who are authorized MWR users, but who do not otherwise have a military ID, employee or contractor access badge, to enter the Arsenal in a more 'hassle free' manner to enjoy their MWR privileges. Be watching for further details on this initiative coming soon."

## PAC-2 missile has successful test

The Program Executive Office for Air and Missile Defense, and the Lower Tier Project Office, conducted a test of the Patriot missile system May 15 from Eglin Air Force Base, Fla. Preliminary data indicate the test was successful.

The mission used a Patriot Advanced Capability-2, anti-tactical missile which intercepted a subscale aircraft MQM-107 target. This target was flying an inbound profile at low altitude. The intercepts occurred over the eastern side of Eglin.

The Alabama Army National Guard, 1st/203rd Air Defense Artillery (Patriot) Battalion, headquartered in Athens, with units in Huntsville, Hartselle, Scottsboro and Bridgeport, provided the personnel

and tactical Patriot equipment for conduct of the mission augmented by test personnel from the White Sands Missile Range, N.M., Patriot test facility.

This mission allowed engineers to collect Patriot flight test data and allowed the National Guard soldiers to fire live missiles as part of their annual training to maintain proficiency and build confidence in the capabilities of the systems that they man.

The Patriot Program is executed by the Program Executive Office for Air and Missile Defense and the Lower Tier Project Office. Raytheon Systems Company in Bedford, Mass., is the prime contractor for the Patriot system.

## Redstone Rocket

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# Resource managers recognize National Guardsmen on gates

Community projects committee contributes refreshment items

ASMC RELEASE

The American Society of Military Comptrollers' Community Projects Committee wanted to do something for the National Guard soldiers who staff the gates on Redstone Arsenal, and to recognize these soldiers for their hard work and dedication.

Charlie Company, 1st/167th Infantry of Cullman was activated last October to help meet the requirements for additional security. They man the gates 24 hours a day in three shifts, work in all kinds of weather, and tactfully and skillfully deal with a variety of driver's temperaments daily. These soldiers have been away from their homes and families for more than eight months, and many of them have since lost their civilian employment as a result of their extended deployment.

The ASMC asked the National Guards-

men how its Community Projects Committee could contribute to the improvement of their working conditions. They requested a coffee pot and coffee, as they drink numerous pots in a 24-hour period. It is most difficult for the soldiers on the night shift, because of the small number of vehicles entering and exiting the gates during those hours; and they must stay focused and alert. Many of these soldiers have personally purchased inexpensive coffee makers which have consequently burned up from repetitive usage.

The ASMC Community Projects Committee bought a Bunn coffee maker, several cans of coffee, coffee filters, 10 large thermoses and snack crackers and presented them to some of the representatives of the unit. The soldiers were extremely appreciative as they are for all acts of kindness and concern shown them.

ASMC took the opportunity to recognize these soldiers for their hard work and dedication by providing items that will be useful on a daily basis.



Courtesy photo

**HONORING GUARDSMEN**— From left are ASMC Community Projects chairman Theresa McBride, SFC Eugene Newberry, SSgt. Timothy McKoy, 2nd Lt. Roger Moss, ASMC member Brandy Moss, and SFC Harold Tankersley.

# Army Emergency Relief drive exceeds last year's total



Courtesy photo

**GROWING FUNDS**— Romona Rice, a secretary at Integrated Materiel Management Center, holds a plant sale April 25 outside the Sparkman Center for the Army Emergency Relief campaign.

Fund-raising campaign nearly doubles goal

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

The \$50,000 goal for this year's Army Emergency Relief campaign turned out to be even more conservative than expected.

Officially ended May 15, the drive raised \$91,933.86 by last Thursday afternoon with some organizations still turning in money. This surpassed last year's \$79,454 total.

"It definitely exceeded our expectations. We're thrilled," AER officer Kristi Foster said. "It doesn't really surprise me because we've had so much support this year from the military community."

Besides an increase in allotments from soldiers, there was a wide variety of fund-raising events — everything from car washes to Pentagon lapel pin sales.

The campaign chairman was 1st Lt. Jack Eagly, of Charlie Company, 1st/167th Infantry, the Cullman-based National Guard unit deployed to Redstone last October to augment security. MSgt. Perry West, of HHC AMCOM, was the co-chairman.

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# Post residents get high-speed Internet sooner than planned

**BellSouth Corporation accelerates timetable**

By SKIP VAUGHN  
Rocket editor  
skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

High-speed Internet was expected to arrive by early 2004 at Redstone but that wasn't soon enough for some residents.

Complaining phone calls and letters to the Redstone Rocket prompted BellSouth officials to accelerate their timetable. Redstone Arsenal Support Activity was also involved in getting this service for the military families residing on post.

The efforts came to fruition this month. BellSouth's high-speed Digital Subscriber Line (DSL) Internet service became available to post housing residents May 1.

"We have been attempting to assist the families of Redstone Arsenal in obtaining high-speed Internet service for almost two years," Darrell Brewer, deputy to the garrison commander, said. "And we think this is a great move forward."

BellSouth's DSL Internet service works at speeds up to 50 times faster than a standard dial-up modem.

"People like the speed," Dave Hargrove, BellSouth regional manager, said. "For me personally the benefit is the established connection all the time. You

can answer the phone and not disrupt that Internet connection.

"It's direct point-to-point connection as opposed to a shared bandwidth connection," he added. This means the user will get a consistent speed because he or she is not sharing the line with others.

BellSouth is deploying its fast access Internet service throughout its nine-state region. Redstone Arsenal was not on this year's list for the service, but BellSouth officials decided to deliver it here 18 months early.

"We're very pleased to bring this service to the residents of Redstone Arsenal," Ken McFarland, BellSouth's national account manager for Redstone Arsenal, said.

Six customers have signed up for the service here so far. The standard monthly rate, added to the customer's phone bill, is \$49.95; or users can pay \$45 monthly under the Complete Choice plan. Both prices include Internet provider service. DSL technology uses existing copper telephone lines, which must be technically capable of providing the service.

"Seventy percent of our customers in our nine-state region have access to this service," Hargrove said. This represents 729,000 people and BellSouth's goal is 1.1 million DSL subscribers by the end of this year.

"It is a significant investment to deploy

wide band throughout our nine-state region, but of course it's an investment we're happy to make at Redstone," Hargrove said. "We know that there's a need and a desire for this service here on base."

This represents 500 potential customers at Redstone. Interested residents can check out BellSouth's web site at <http://www.fastaccess.com/> or call 1-888-321-ADSL for more information.

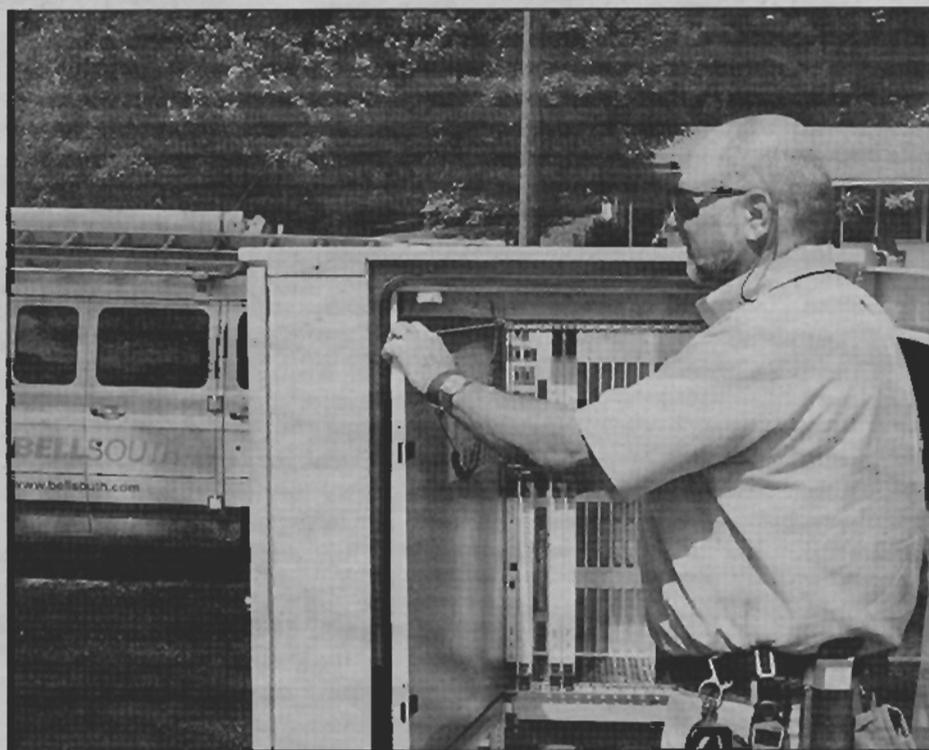


Photo by Skip Vaughn

**MAKING CONNECTION**— BellSouth service technician Mel Johnston prepares for another Digital Subscriber Line installation in the housing area.

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# Youngsters learn basics of explosive ordnance disposal

## EOD training team visits local schools

By KIM GILLESPIE  
For the Rocket

Warning young people about the dangers of unexploded ordnance doesn't have to be a stern, boring lecture — it can be fun, as members of the Ordnance Missile Munitions Center and School's Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Training Department proved May 15-16 when they visited Williams Elementary and Middle and Westlawn Middle schools.

Student at both schools got an opportunity to not only learn about the dangers of unexploded military ordnance, civilian explosives and fireworks, but also had a chance for some hands-on experience with the equipment and tools used by all bomb technicians.

"It is our duty to warn, or just remind, young people who may live on or near an installation about the dangers of ordnance they might encounter," Maj. Greg Hicks, deputy director of the EOD Training Department, said. According to Hicks, the Department particularly likes to focus on schools that an installation's young people attend, hence, the visits to Williams and Westlawn, two of the schools where Redstone Arsenal students are enrolled. But unexploded ordnance dangers are not just limited to those with access to an installation; dangers from ordnance and explosives can be anywhere, according to the EOD Training Department.

"We don't limit our presentation to just talking about picking up strange objects on or near an installation. We cover the full range of explosives and pyrotechnics that may cause injuries or death," Hicks said. "We especially like to emphasize the

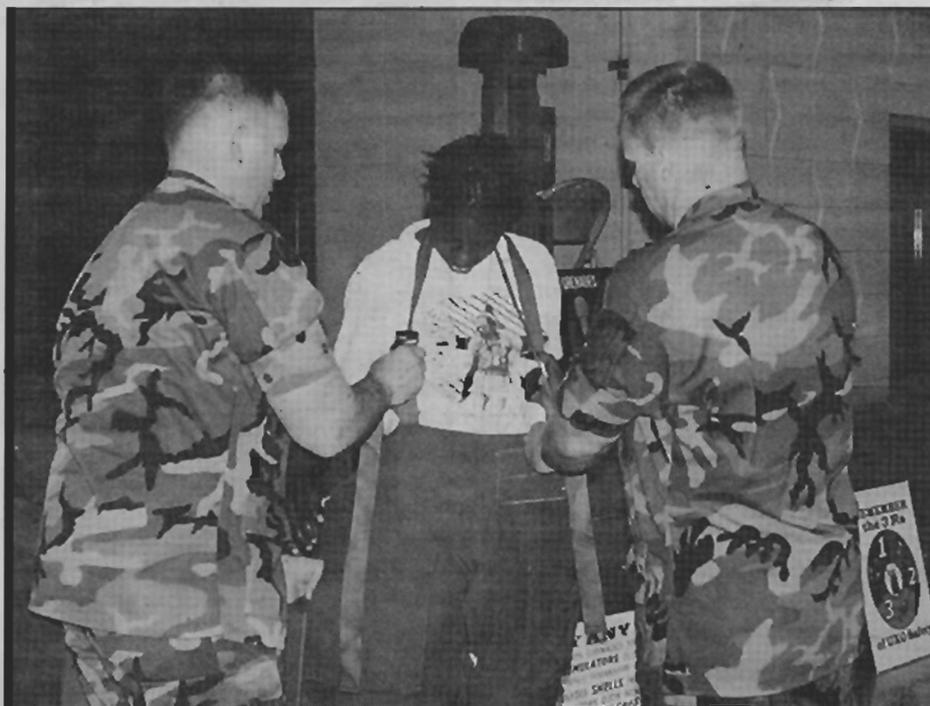


Photo by Kim Gillespie

**HOT SUIT**— Westlawn Middle School student Michelle Pitts is helped out of her bomb suit by Explosive Ordnance Disposal Training Department personnel Maj. Greg Hicks, left, and SSgt. Marc Babicz. The EOD Training Department provided unexploded ordnance safety awareness demonstrations at Williams Elementary and Middle and Westlawn Middle schools.

dangers of things like blasting caps. People just don't realize how common it is to use explosives for civilian work like construction, so they are not even aware these dangerous items may be out there."

But that doesn't mean the safety presentation can't be entertaining to the young people. "To keep any group's attention, you have to get them involved," said SSgt. Michael Cochran, who emceed the presentation. "I interact with them by asking them questions and asking for their help." Cochran had no problem getting the stu-

dents at both schools involved. When he asked students if they had heard about the pipe bombs planted in mailboxes in the Mid-west recently, virtually every student raised his or her hand. When he mentioned the Fourth of July holiday and asked how many of them have used fireworks, their hands went up just as quickly. Cochran used their knowledge of current events and their curiosity to make a point — even something small like fireworks can maim or disfigure you for life. The EOD Training Department also likes

to include EOD equipment and training as part of its demonstration. "If we emphasize how much protection and training we need as EOD specialists, it can really hit home about how dangerous this stuff is," Cochran said.

At Westlawn, one of the volunteers, Michelle Pitts, was outfitted in the EOD technicians' 75 pounds of protective clothing and asked to go out and assess a suspicious backpack. Pitts got some assistance walking over to the item, and needed more help kneeling down. Her peers never took their eyes off her. After she and her assistant set up X-ray equipment and identify the item, they next set up a demolition of the item, with other student volunteers signaling the blast by yelling to their new EOD team members. As Pitts gets help having her suit removed, her first words were, "It's hot!" "Now you know how we feel all the time!" responded Cochran. The students all gave a big round of applause after the end of this exercise.

SSgt. Marc Babicz may have had the toughest job of the day. Babicz operated the robot used for some unexploded ordnance assessments and retrievals. After the demonstration was over and the students were invited to join the EOD specialists for a firsthand view of the samples and equipment, Babicz was literally swarmed by students wanting to see the robot up close or ask questions. "The kids always have a lot of questions about the robot," Hicks said.

But the EOD Training Department was careful to make sure the one thing these young people took with them was the "three Rs." "Recognize, retreat and report any suspicious item to an adult and don't touch it," Cochran stressed to the young people. "That's all you have to remember."

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# Electric scooter helps secretary regain her mobility

*Walking halls became chore since back injury last year*

By SKIP VAUGHN  
Rocket editor  
skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

Mary Weber was hurting. Even walking from her desk to the cafeteria became too painful for her back.

Weber, a secretary in the Logistics Support Activity transportation division, ruptured a disk in her back last year at work. She searched Ebay on the Internet for help and found it.

What she found was an electric scooter for sale. She called the Sparkman Management Office and got permission to use it in the Sparkman Center. Since buying the scooter two months ago, Weber has regained her lost mobility at the workplace.

"It's made life a lot easier on me," said Weber, 46. "It's made me more mobile for my job, where I was basically hemmed up at my desk for six months or so, which gives you back that self-worth feeling. And my bosses are very good with it."

The Jammer Street Scooter, which she bought for \$42 plus \$20 for shipping, weighs only 18 pounds and it can carry up to 150 pounds. Maximum speed is 8 and a half mph. The on-off button, which must be depressed for forward motion, is under her right foot and the brake, which she uses to slow down, is under her left heel. She said the scooter's retail price is about \$125.

She added a basket on front for her papers and a pink horn for hallway traffic.

"I try not to run over anybody but I hate it when they jump out in front of me," she said. "Mostly everybody's been pretty good with it I've had one or two complaints. But I try to keep to myself."

She tools around the hallways in building 5307. At closing time, the Harvest resident breaks the scooter down and puts it in the trunk of her car until the next workday.

Weber has 21 years of government service, including time as a soldier in the military police from 1974-77 in Okinawa, Japan.

"It beats walking," she said of her scooter.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**SCOOTIN' ALONG**— Mary Weber, of the Logistics Support Activity, tools around the hallways in the Sparkman Center on an electric scooter since hurting her back at work last year.

## ■ Association seeks ideas for resolutions

### Agenda

continued from page 2

AUSA's legislative agenda. The resolutions are approved by delegates at the business meeting held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting in October.

Redstone leaders have the opportunity to assist the AUSA with the formation of this year's resolution submissions. Chapters and individual AUSA members are encouraged to submit proposed resolu-

tions for committee consideration. Resolutions or suggested subjects for resolutions must be forwarded to AUSA national headquarters by Aug. 9.

"There is no requirement for Team Redstone leaders to provide input," Elliott said. "However, we would like to know what our local leaders see as important to them and the soldiers for whom they work so hard."

Additional information can be obtained at the AUSA web site: [www.ausa.org/www/legislation.nsf](http://www.ausa.org/www/legislation.nsf).

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## First Command Foundation awards \$1,000 scholarship

Stacie Robyn Furia has been awarded the 2002 First Command Foundation Scholarship and received \$1,000 in a presentation May 16.

Furia, 20, is the daughter of Sgt. Maj. Robert and Susan Furia of Redstone Arsenal. She is a junior at Vanderbilt University.

Mary Bissell and Angie Lunn, agents for First Command in Huntsville, presented the scholarship.

Furia is working toward a major in sociology and women's studies. She is active in clubs such as the Vanderbilt Feminists, Women's Studies Club and

Project Dialogue.

The First Command Education Foundation has presented scholarships to outstanding students since 1983. In that time the foundation, with matching funds from local agents, has awarded 2,286 scholarships totaling \$2,379,000 to help further the education of children of military personnel.

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# Army test pilot to lead Naval Test Pilot School

AVIATION APPLIED TECHNOLOGY DIRECTORATE  
RELEASE

FORT EUSTIS, Va. — When he was a student at the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School, Patuxent River, Md., in 1994, Lt. Col. Steve Kihara never dreamed that one day he would be the first Army test pilot to command the organization.

Kihara, a master Army aviator with approximately 3,500 flight hours in more than 50 aircraft, is assigned to the Rapid Prototyping Division, Aviation Applied Technology Directorate, Fort Eustis. He will report to the USNTPS in spring 2003 for a three-year tour. The first 18 months of the tour, he will serve as the executive officer before assuming duties as commander.

"This assignment is the capstone of my career," Kihara said.

The USNTPS began in 1945 with a class of 14 pilots and engineers and lasted a little more than two months. Today the curriculum is 48 weeks long, a class of approximately 30 students, and convenes every January and July.

The curriculum has also expanded to accommodate three different criteria: fixed wing, rotary wing and airborne sys-



Courtesy photo

Lt. Col. STEVE KIHARA

tems. The USNTPS is the only test pilot school in the U.S. military that offers academic courses in the classes annually. USNTPS teaches all Army, Navy and Marine pilots and has an exchange program with the Air Force. Roughly one-sixth of each class is occupied by non-military students such as civilian engineers.

## Rats travel system moves to Internet in mid-June

*Web-based version  
meets user demand*

CORPORATE INFORMATION CENTER RELEASE

In response to the user community's request for a web-based version of the Reengineered Automated Travel System, an extranet version of the travel system has emerged — iRATS.

Six years after its debut in February 1996, RATS has amassed 10,000 users and processed approximately 249,000 travel vouchers. No one really knew what to expect from this system, especially since officials had to sell the public on a new business process along with the system. However, this streamlined method of processing travel has become a mainstay in daily Redstone business practices, according to the RATS Team.

On June 14 at 5 p.m., the current client-server version of RATS will be permanently disabled to begin the transfer of data to the new system. All records initiated in RATS will be available in iRATS on June 17 at 6:30 a.m.

The move to the web not only aligns the system with Army Knowledge Man-

agement Goal 4 which requires organizations to "webify" applications and link them to AKO by July, but also postures the application to be a part of a larger integrated enterprise-wide collaborative business solution for Team Redstone.

While the functionality of iRATS remains consistent with that of RATS, there are some noticeable differences. To receive an overview of the new system, the public is invited to attend one of the scheduled iRATS orientation briefings: June 10 from 1-3 p.m. at Bob Jones Auditorium; June 11 from 9-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m. at building 5250, room A-115; June 12 from 9-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m. at building 5250, room A-115; and June 13 from 9-11 a.m. and 1-3 p.m. at building 5250, room A-115.

In addition to Conversion Orientation and New User classes, iRATS will offer self-paced learning files that will be available on the iRATS homepage located at <http://trol.redstone.army.mil/rats/>. The online training library will have new files added as time goes on, and will eventually offer easy-to-follow help in everything from basic iRATS usage to how to handle unique TDY requests and vouchers.

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# Just for kids

## Child Development Center meets national standard for accreditation

*Interaction of staff and children at heart of year-long process*

By SANDY RIEBELING  
Staff writer  
sandyr@htimes.com

Earning accreditation from the National Association for the Education of Young Children takes a little bit more than a quick visit from the association and a records check.

"Documents, documents and more documents," said Mary D. Washington, director of the Child Development Center, pulling a out a file box full of folders, forms and a binder nearly four inches thick. "This is just some of the paperwork. Most of what's in the binder tells me where the other documents are located so that I can access them quickly."

NAEYC accreditation is a rigorous, volunteer process that demonstrates the early childhood program meets national standards of excellence. The Child Development Center has continually met those standards and was again granted accreditation May 6.

"It is a time consuming process," Washington said. "We get a time-line together and start about a year out. I've had great support from the staff and cooperation from the parents to get everything pulled together."

Routine paperwork such as health and safety inspections, personnel files, children's updated files and medical records, policy and procedure guides and standard forms used for daily operation was only the beginning. The CDC conducted parent and staff surveys, a director's survey, observations of staff members and physical environments plus scrutiny of the curriculum and activities of the program.

The biggest challenge to the application was getting parent surveys completed and returned, Washington said. The survey concentrated on how well the staff communicates information about children, the program and the policies to the parents.

"Both sets of parent surveys were good," Washington said. "That always makes us feel good, to know that the

parents are satisfied with the program."

Once all the paperwork was submitted to the NAEYC, representatives from the association made a two-day visit to the CDC to observe for themselves how the facility operated. The validation visit from NAEYC was Feb. 22-23.

"The most critical issue of accreditation comes down to interaction between the care giver and the child," Washington said. "The staff (members) are always talking to the children, making eye contact, all day long — while they're changing diapers, at meal time, during play and activities. And the children are involved in their routine. We teach them to set the table and pour their own milk. There's interaction all the time."

"The heart of NAEYC accreditation focuses on the child's experience," Barbara Willer, spokesperson for NAEYC, said. "The process carefully considers all aspects of program provision, including health and safety, staffing, staff qualifications, administration and physical environment. But the greatest emphasis is on the children's relationships with the staff and how the program helps each child grow and learn — intellectually, physically, socially and emotionally."

CDC operates with a total staff of 54 and capacity enrollment of 172 children ages 6 weeks to 5 years (not in kindergarten). On average the center cares for 150 children full time, then additional children on a part-time or hourly basis.

Faye Jackson, lead for toddler room 1, has been through the accreditation process three times and has worked at CDC for 17 years.

"It's always a little nerve-racking," Jackson said. "You're always worried they might see something out of the ordinary and judge it instead of asking questions. Things went very smooth. I'm happy it's over with."

Washington is happy as well to have the process completed for another three years. She said that she wasn't concerned about meeting the NAEYC requirements because the Army imposed standards are higher than the association's but to have accreditation from an independent public association is also gratifying.

The staff members are looking forward to the tradi-



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

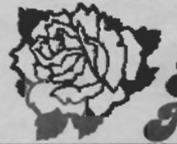
**CLEANING UP—** Mary D. Washington, director at the Child Development Center, visits toddlers Kyle Rusak, 3, son of Mark and Jennifer Rusak, and on right Dakota Cuarisma, 2, son of SSgt. Franklin Cuarisma and Leeann Gonzalez, during lunchtime cleanup.

tional celebration after the long-anticipated accreditation approval.

"I'm not sure what we'll do but we'll have some kind of party," Washington said.

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# Stay-at-home dad trades places with soldier wife

*Switching roles gives married couple opportunity to march in other's shoes*

By SANDY RIEBELING  
Staff writer  
sandyr@htimes.com

Very few married couples have the ability to look their spouse in the eye after a long, hard day and say, "I know how you feel." But it's something that former Spec. Karen Safari and her husband, Spec. Jeffrey Safari, do quite often.

"I know what it's like to get up at 4:30 every day and have your drill sergeant barking at you," Karen said. "I've been there. And Jeff understands the other side, to be trapped at home all day with two kids in their tornado phase isn't an easy job either. I think it makes us more sympathetic to each other."

It may be unconventional, the way this young couple planned their life, but it seems to be working and right on schedule. Karen, a native of the south shore of Long Island, N.Y., met Jeffrey, from the north shore, at a community college on the island. The couple fell in love, graduated from college and discovered tuition at the nearby colleges was unaffordable. So they came up with a plan.

"We got married and I decided to go into the military to pay for school," Karen said. "I'm very independent. It was what I wanted to do and Jeff was very supportive. He would finish college while I was in and then he could get a good job to support us."

Karen's first and only tour was at Redstone from 1997-2001 working at Fox Army Health Center as a medic. She worked a year as an EMT then moved over to the Troop Medical Clinic.

"I loved that job, working with the soldiers," she said. "The staff was incredible. I spent two years working with a physician's assistant, Mr. (Robert) Meyers. He was great. It didn't matter how many patients we had or how overloaded we were, his compassion was unbelievable. That and he loved to laugh."

True to the plan, while Karen was serving her country, Jeffrey was attending Columbia University on post where he eventually earned a bachelor's in business administration. But there were a few bumps along the way.

In 1999, eight days after moving into new quarters on post, their quadplex caught fire and nearly all her belongings were destroyed.

"I remember it was April 12 because it was the day after my birthday," Karen said. "I was seven months pregnant with Logan and the day before I got this huge box of maternity clothes from my mom."

The family had some trials trying to find suitable housing but all in all, Karen said that if the fire was going to happen, it hap-

pened at a good time.

"We didn't have any baby albums yet or precious baby keepsakes and I think getting ready to have Logan helped me get over the fire quicker," she said.

Jeffrey became the full-time stay-at-home dad of Logan and then Madison came along a little while after that.

"I loved staying home with the kids," said Jeffrey, who admitted that he caught a little grief about being Mr. Mom. "It was great to spend all that time with them. They can be a handful sometimes, too."

Karen's tour was coming to a close. The family was in full bloom and Jeffrey, armed with a degree, was looking forward to the change in roles. Instead of going back to New York and finding a civilian job, Jeffrey thought the Army might be a better opportunity. He enlisted in August 2001 as a calibration technician. The training was scheduled from November to July.

So as Karen left the role behind as Spec. Safari, Jeffrey enlisted and gave the name new life. Karen and the kids spent a little time in New York last summer after Jeffrey enlisted but when he went home on Exodus he was able to bring the family once again to Redstone.

"It was like coming home for us," Karen said. "We know where everything is."

The post was the same but the family roles had reversed.

"I had to take a crash course in mommyhood," Karen said. "Going from a full-time soldier to a full-time mother of two is very different. I also had a crash course in kitchen 101. I'd never done any cooking before but I found out that I actually can cook."

Karen also volunteers at Army Community Service as a way to continue serving soldiers. When the family gets settled at their next post, Karen expects to get started on her bachelor's degree, possibly in the medical field.

There are things she misses, like working with the soldiers and having a job to go to. "I also miss being able to say that I'm serving my country. It sounds corny but I am proud of being a soldier."

And there are things she doesn't miss.

"I don't miss the political stuff and some of the regulations," she said. "You know, the urinalysis where they wake you up at 4:30 and tell you that you can't pee until 6 a.m."

Jeffrey, a soldier in Bravo Company, 832nd Ordnance Battalion, finds the job challenging but rewarding. He said that going through all the "stuff" when his wife was in the Army better prepared him for his enlistment but the training environment is still stressful.

"Physically I can handle it," he said. "This unit has very high standards. We have long days. I miss that time with the kids but it's worth it. And when I do get home and see that look in Karen's eye, knowing she's had a hard day, I'll take the kids and tell her to go out and take some time for herself — go to the gym or something. And she does it."



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

**HAPPY HANDFUL**— Being a full-time stay at home mom is a new twist for former Spec. Karen Safari, with her children Logan, 2, and Madison, 15 months. Two weeks before she left the Army her husband, Jeffrey, enlisted.

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# Strokes represent third leading cause of death in United States

*Know warning signs, get help for symptoms*

By Maj. WATRINA WHITE  
Fox Army Health Center

May is American Stroke Month. A stroke or cerebrovascular accident is the sudden onset of a neurologic deficit caused by a loss of blood circulation to a portion of the brain. This loss of blood circulation can be caused by either a blood clot or bleeding. Strokes are sometimes referred to as "brain attacks."

According to the American Heart Association, strokes are the third leading cause of death in the United States. On average someone suffers a stroke every 53 seconds. About every three and a half minutes someone dies from a stroke, accounting for more than 150,000 deaths annually. Strokes are one of the leading causes of serious long-term disability in the United States.

Recognition and action are the keys to survival when experiencing a stroke. If you, or anyone you know, experience any of the following symptoms call 911 immediately and tell them you are having a stroke. Warning signs and symptoms of a stroke include: sudden weakness, numbness or paralysis of the face, arm or leg,

especially on one side of the body; blurred or decreased vision that does not clear with blinking; difficulty speaking or understanding language; dizziness, difficulty walking or moving; unexplainable and intense headache with nausea, vomiting and incoordination; and altered level of consciousness. If you experience symptoms that subside after a few minutes, you may have transient ischemic attacks. These are warnings that a stroke may soon occur.

The risk of stroke increases with age and is highest in individuals 60 to 80 years old. It is also more common in males than females. Other risk factors include high blood pressure, high cholesterol, heart disease, smoking, diabetes and family history. Combinations of risk factors put individuals at a greater risk.

Here are some things you can do to decrease your risk of having a stroke: Stop smoking, control blood pressure, decrease cholesterol levels, daily aspirin (use only with your doctor's permission), regular exercise and weight control.

Remember a stroke is a medical emergency. If you experience any of the symptoms, call 911 immediately.

*Editor's note: Maj. Watrina White is community health nurse at Fox Army Health Center.*



Courtesy photo

## Health survey

George Donahue, an aircraft production mechanic, has his blood pressure checked by a Christus Spohn Hospital employee as part of the sixth annual Heart Healthy Survey, May 13-17 at Corpus Christi Army Depot, Texas. The depot's Wellness Center offered this medical evaluation in conjunction with Christus Spohn Health Services at no cost to Corpus Christi workers. This survey gave workers the opportunity to gather more information about their personal cholesterol levels, blood sugar levels, weight, blood pressure, and body composition analysis. The evaluation was confidential and for the employee's use only.

## Fox health center receives ambulatory care accreditation

FOX ARMY HEALTH CENTER RELEASE

Fox Army Health Center has achieved ambulatory care accreditation with full standards compliance from the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Health-care Organizations.

"In becoming accredited, Fox Army Health Center was evaluated against a set of national standards by a Joint Commission team of surveyors experienced in the delivery of ambulatory health care services," said Mike Dye, associate director, Ambulatory Program, Joint Commission. "Achieving accreditation demonstrates Fox Army Health Center's commitment to provide high quality and safe care to its patients."

"We seek accreditation for our organization because we want to be the best," Col. Joan Campanaro, commander of Fox Army Health Center, said. "Only 11 per-

cent of ambulatory care facilities surveyed by the Joint Commission receive a score of 99 or better. We were one of them. We view obtaining Joint Commission accreditation as another step toward excellence. Our staff is very supportive of the process. It gives them a feeling of prestige to work in an accredited organization. They also appreciate the educational aspect of the survey and the opportunity to interact with the Joint Commission survey team."

An independent, not-for-profit organization, the Joint Commission is the predominant standards-setting and accrediting body in health care. Since 1975 the Joint Commission has developed state-of-the-art standards for outpatient ambulatory care organizations. More than 1,100 freestanding ambulatory care organizations maintain Joint Commission accreditation.

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Photo by SSgt. Anita Seneres

## Hit visit

Suzanna Langsmith learns about pugil sticks from Pvt. Daylan Barnard during "Bring Your Child to Work Day" held May 3 by the 832nd Ordnance Battalion. About 20 youngsters participated.

## ■ Year-long celebration marks 50th year of Corvette

### Corvette

continued from page 12

could do. It's hard to say no when he finds these good deals, even when they (the cars) are in pieces. Now that he's turned out a few, it's easier to believe the car will really turn into something great."

"A few pieces" describes the beginnings of Shirley's 1966 Corvette convertible. While stationed in New Jersey, Jim was driving in the countryside and spotted the windshield frame of a mid-year Corvette poking out of a cornfield. The car was damaged in the left rear corner, the drivetrain and front end removed. It just so happened that the farmer had a 1965 Corvette, also in dilapidated pieces. Jim made a deal for both and brought them back to Alabama.

"I'd never really thought about driving a mid-year (Corvette)," Shirley said. "Then one day I drove our '98 to work. I had a terrible day, just awful. I came out to the parking lot after work, put the top down on the Corvette and drove it home. It felt great. It changed my whole day. That's when I knew. I came home and told Jim, 'If you want me to enjoy these cars, build me a Corvette.'"

But Shirley had requirements. It had to start, stop and run. So together the two designed Shirley's car using pieces of the

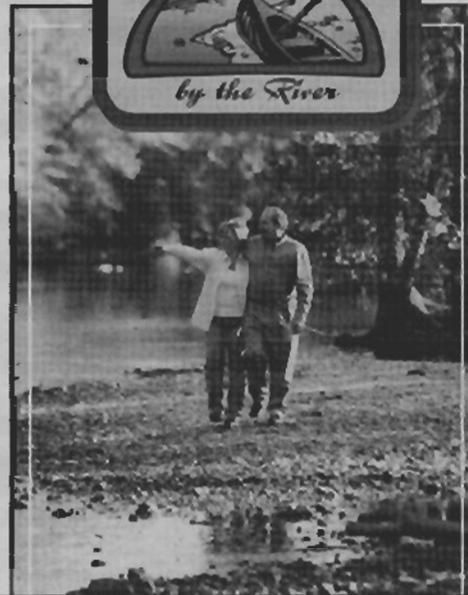
'65 and '66 Corvettes from the cornfield along with parts from 18 other Corvettes. It isn't a truly restored 1966, but one that was designed for Shirley to drive — equipped with a new crate motor, dressed as a stock 350 hp 327 cubic inch engine and options that include air conditioning, power steering, power brakes, telescopic steering column, headrest seats, shoulder harnesses, four-speed transmission, knock off wheels and cruise control.

"This is what I love to do," Hornaday said, standing in his 6,300 square foot shop attached to his home, surrounded by Corvette beauties and battered pieces that will soon make the transformation. "We went to the National Corvette convention in Australia in 2000, sponsored by the New South Wales Corvette Club in Sydney. We're going to Australia again next year for the Australian 50th anniversary celebration."

Two other local Corvette owners, Henry Younger of Gurley and Redstone worker Randy McClure of Huntsville, have been selected as secondary participants. If for some reason a selected primary participant cannot drive in the Motorama, the secondary participant for that model year will drive instead.

More information about the National Corvette Museum's 50th Anniversary Kickoff Celebration can be found at [http://www.corvettemuseum.com/50th\\_kickoff/agenda.shtml](http://www.corvettemuseum.com/50th_kickoff/agenda.shtml).

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# Army in action

## Developing system launches missile defense to new heights

*THAAD system is ahead of schedule, under budget*

By SANDY RIEBELING  
Staff writer  
sandy@htimes.com

Admittedly the THAAD system got off to a rocky start.

The idea is to use a ground-based system to launch a missile into the upper atmosphere, or even outer space, to hit and kill incoming ballistic missiles from a few hundred kilometers up to thousands of kilometers away. Hitting a bullet with a bullet, so to speak.

Concept development began in 1989 and by the mid-'90s, a prototype was being flight tested to prove that using one missile to hit another would work. But it didn't, at first.

"The program had several failures in the beginning but they weren't high tech failures," Col. Patrick O'Reilly, project manager for Theater High Altitude Area Defense, said. "Most of the failures were in quality control, how the test missiles were built. Lockheed Martin jumped on that and fixed those problems and in 1999 we had two successful test flights, one in June, the other in August. The project

moved into the development phase in 2000 and is going great."

This \$6 billion phase is now slightly ahead of schedule and under cost. Even more good news, O'Reilly was informed last week that THAAD was selected as the winner of the David Packard Award for Acquisition Excellence by the Department of Defense. This is the latest award of several the system has received, including the best design award in an annual international competition sponsored in part by *Business Week* magazine last year.

The THAAD system consists of four principal components: truck mounted launchers, interceptors, radar system and the battle management/command and control.

The THAAD radar is the most powerful mobile radar in the world," O'Reilly said. "Just to give you an idea — if the radar was in Huntsville, it could see an object smaller than a basketball sitting above the Washington Monument."

The radar supports the full range of surveillance, target tracking and fire control functions and provides a communications link with THAAD interceptors in flight. Together with the battle management/command and control, it becomes a

sensor package.

Normal missile raids can include tens or hundreds of missiles coming in at one time. The sensor package is able to track each object in the group, interrogate and discriminate targets and determine which ones are the re-entry vehicles with warheads.

Although the radar tells the interceptor where the intercept point should be, it doesn't guide the missile to the target. Once launched, the interceptor, based on radar updates, determines its path. A few seconds before intercept, the interceptor activates its built-in seeker and finds the target, basically steering itself.

The interceptor has a single stage booster and a kinetic kill vehicle that destroys targets by the force of kinetic impact — hit to kill. At launch the booster has a short burn then drops off, propelling the kill vehicle into the atmosphere traveling thousands of miles per hour. The kill vehicle has no wings or fins and uses thrusters to adjust its path.

"THAAD can launch many interceptors at one time, depending on the targets," O'Reilly said. "We want to kill the targets as high and far away as possible to minimize post-intercept debris that could

harm troops or population centers. It's the only system that intercepts inside and outside the earth's atmosphere. It is a highly automated system. There's nothing in the world like it."

Once the system is in place, it can work fully automated. If it is set up for manual operation, a crew of two is needed in the command and control center. Additional personnel are needed to move, set up and maintain the equipment.

It is a highly mobile system, able to travel by aircraft, rail or sea.

The system is designed to work alone or in conjunction with other weapon systems. It can launch Patriot PAC-2 (explosive missile) and PAC-3 (hit-to-kill missiles) but is a missile to missile system only. Patriot can destroy aircraft and missile targets. Other weapon systems may be deployed with the THAAD to provide protection for the system.

"THAAD is highly prolific," O'Reilly said. "There are thousands of threats — missiles all over the world that could be used against us or our allies right now. That's why it's so important."

The goal of the current phase is to develop a system that is reliable, testable,

See Schedule on page 15



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# Schedule

continued from page 14

affordable and deployable. O'Reilly expects to have a fieldable product by 2007 but, he said, it's possible to have the potential capability as early as 2006.

About 190 people work in the project office in Huntsville and another 200 people from the Aviation and Missile Command and the Space and Missile Defense Command support the system locally.

More jobs will be coming to Huntsville and to Alabama to manufacture the THAAD. The lead prime contractor, Lockheed Martin, will operate a missile assembly facility in

Troy and Raytheon, who is responsible for about 40 percent of the system, is opening a facility near the Huntsville International Airport where the battle management/command and control component will be manufactured.

"We've had a strong commitment from the industry team and the government team which really helps us achieve our goal for excellence in missile defense," O'Reilly said. "It's been quite pleasurable to be the PM for the last three years and I have one year to go. I'm very fortunate."

The THAAD Project Office was managed under Program Executive Office for Air and Missile Defense until Jan. 2 when it was placed under the direction of the Missile Defense Agency.

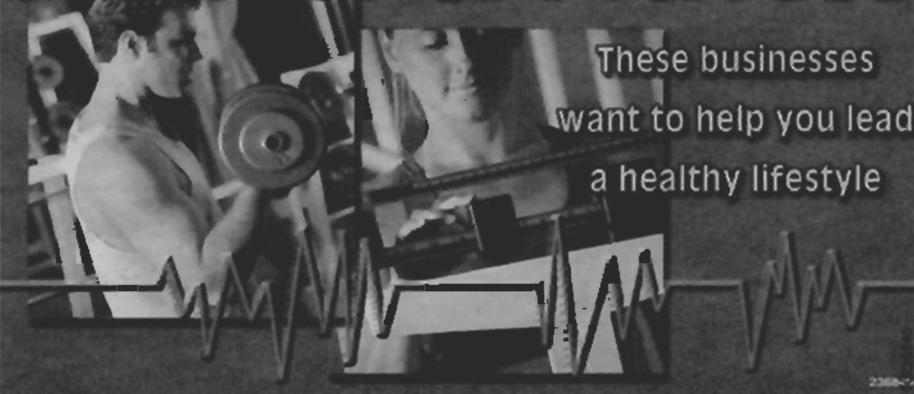


Lockheed Martin graphic

**PATROLLING SKIES**—The Theater High Altitude Area Defense is a mobile system designed to engage short and medium range ballistic missiles in both the endo- and exo-atmosphere. First fielding is expected by 2007.

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"Trey if you had one thing to say about the diet kit, what would that be?" "Charles explained the myths and the truths in weight loss and nutrition. His Diet Kit has the science that helped me loose weight and gain muscle: Anyone that needs to shape up should give this program a try."

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**Images**

continued from page 1

the day of the attack and in the first days of the rescue efforts. "I took some pictures while I was there but they were the residual and not nearly the quality of these that I've accumulated," he said.

Thomas graduated from Alabama A&M University in 1968 with a bachelor's degree in history and government. He earned a master's of business administration in 1976 and a master's in secondary education in 1979, both from A&M. He worked in the Integrated Materiel Management Center from 1968 until taking early retirement in 1994 as a GM-14 inventory management specialist.

After retiring from the government, he worked for a year and a half in the development and alumni office as a fund-raiser for Alabama A&M. He returned to Redstone 2000-01 as a senior logistics analyst

for LESCO (Logistics Engineering & Environmental Support Services Inc.), a contractor working on the single stock fund in support of Integrated Materiel Management Center. He began working for Dynetics in August 2001 in support of the Army logistics modernization programs through the single stock fund, under contract for the Logistics Support Activity.

He and his wife of 30 years, Rose Merry, have two grown children: daughter Felicia, 26, a procurement analyst for Honda of Alabama in Lincoln; and Eric II, 21, a private first class in the Marine Reserve and a sophomore at Alabama A&M. Felicia is to get married Aug. 23 in the Bahamas. Her fiancé, Eric Deramus, has a 2-year-old daughter, Alena Marie Deramus. "My wife and I have claimed her as a granddaughter," Thomas said.

"Sept. 11, 1968 was when I started working for the Army here at Redstone," he said. "Isn't that ironic?"



**LIBERTY PREVAILS**— The Statue of Liberty stands amid the smoke from burning buildings in New York City, Sept. 11.

Eric B. Thomas collection



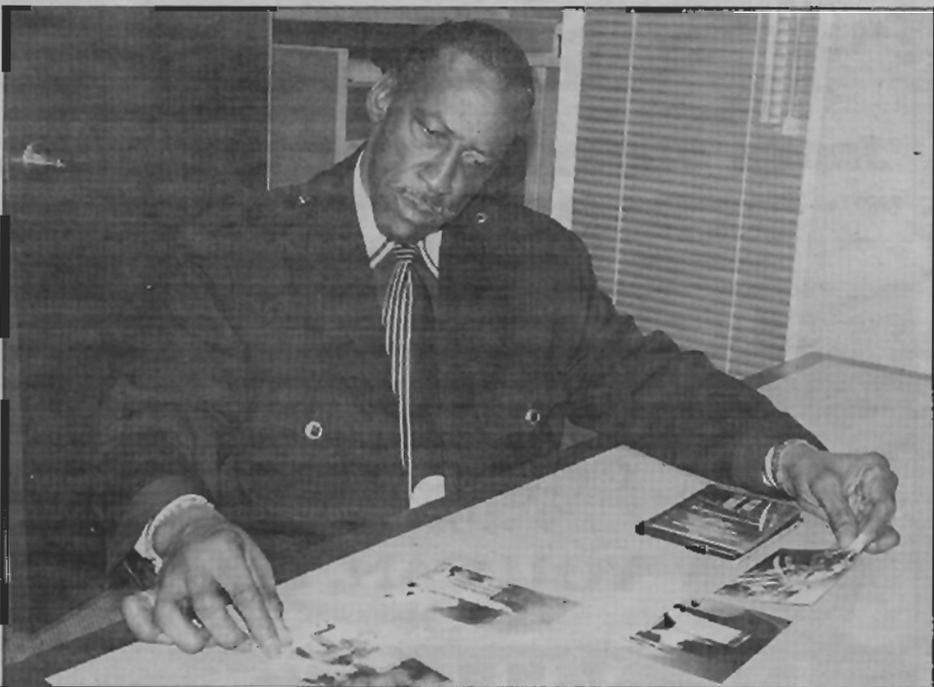
**SECOND PLANE**— Shortly after a hijacked airliner slammed into the North Tower, a second plane approaches the South Tower of the World Trade Center during the terrorist attack.

Eric B. Thomas collection



**PRESIDENTIAL VISIT**— President Bush and New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani, left, inspect the site of the terrorist attack.

Eric B. Thomas collection



**VIVID IMAGES**— Eric B. Thomas, a senior logistics analyst for contractor Dynetics Inc., looks at some of the pictures he has collected from the New York City terrorist attack. He keeps them in a small photo album titled, "Remember the Heroes, Sept. 11, 2001."

Photo by Skip Vaughn

# Command considers civilian personnel demo project

*Integrated Process Team formed for acquisition work force effort*

CIVILIAN PERSONNEL ADVISORY CENTER RELEASE

AMCOM management officials are once again exploring the possibility of becoming a part of the Acquisition Work Force Personnel Demonstration Project.

The Acquisition Demonstration Project is a congressionally-authorized project designed to show that the DoD acquisition, technology and logistics work force can be improved by providing employees with a flexible, responsive

personnel system that rewards employee contribution and provides greater personnel flexibilities.

The Acquisition Demo shares many of the features of the current Laboratory Demonstration Project which has been in place in Research Development and Engineering Center for about five years. Major features of the Acquisition Demonstration Project are: broadbanding, in which grade levels are grouped and employees are able to advance within these broad bands; contribution-based compensation and appraisal system, in which employees will be evaluated for

salary increases and awards; and other personnel flexibilities, such as improved training and education opportunities, paid sabbaticals and a mentoring program.

The command has formed an Integrated Process Team that is chaired by the deputy to the commanding general and is being led by the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center. The IPT will be responsible for developing an implementation plan for the command.

Briefings to the AMCOM work force on the Acquisition Demonstration Project are being planned for July.



Courtesy photo

## All-American scholar

Vanessa Cook, 13, daughter of Sgt. Sherman and Silvia Cook of Redstone Arsenal, has been named an All-American Scholar by the United States Achievement Academy. She was nominated by Westlawn Middle School teacher Lashonda Brown where she attends seventh-grade. The All-American Scholars must earn at least a 3.3 grade point average and be selected by a school instructor, counselor or other qualified sponsor. Her father is a member of Charlie Company, 1st Battalion of the 167th Infantry, the Cullman-based National Guard unit which arrived last October to augment security.

# Eberhart tabbed to head U.S. Northern Command

By GERRY J. GILMORE  
*American Forces Press Service*

WASHINGTON — The commander of the U.S. military's space and continental air defense assets has been chosen to lead the nation's premier military homeland defense organization.

Air Force Gen. Ralph E. Eberhart has been nominated by President Bush to command the soon-to-be established U.S. Northern Command, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said May 8 in a Pentagon news briefing. The nomination requires U.S. Senate confirmation, DoD officials noted.

Northern Command will take the homeland security missions being performed by various combatant commanders and put them under a single command, Air Force Gen. Richard B. Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, noted April 18 at a Pentagon press briefing.

If approved, the new organization is slated for activation Oct. 1 at Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado Springs, Colo., as part of changes to DoD's Unified Command Plan announced April 17.

Eberhart currently wears three hats as the commander in chief of both U.S. Space Command and the North American

Aerospace Defense Command and as Defense Department manager for Space Transportation Systems Contingency Support, all at Peterson. He has served as head of Space Command since Feb. 22, 2000.

A command pilot, Eberhart flew 300 combat missions in Vietnam. Other assignments during his career include tours as Air Force vice chief of staff; commander, Air Force Air Combat Command, Langley Air Force Base, Va.; and commander of the 5th Air Force, Yokota Air Base, Japan. He is a 1968 graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs.

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# Stryker is 'way of the future,' Army NCOs say

Multi-wheeled, armored vehicle tips scales at 38,000 pounds

By GERRY J. GILMORE  
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The Army's new multi-wheeled, armored vehicle, the Stryker, may be lean compared to an Abrams tank, but it's no lightweight.

At 38,000 pounds, the Stryker can be airlifted to deploy to hot spots around the globe, said Army Sgt. 1st Class Gary Engelbrecht, who, along with Staff Sgt. John Gemmell Jr., showcased the eighth Stryker off the assembly line to visitors May 9 as part of Public Service Recognition Week activities on the National Mall.

The two 2nd Infantry Division, 3rd Brigade noncommissioned officers from Fort Lewis, Wash., noted that the Stryker's 70-ton cousin, the Abrams, is too heavy to be airlifted, so it deploys by ship, a much slower process.

With the Stryker, Engelbrecht explained, "you'll be able to move a whole brigade within 96 hours" and engage the enemy for 72 hours until heavier forces arrive.

"It's basically getting the infantry to the battle faster," he added.

The rapid-deployable Stryker can also absorb a licking and keep on ticking.

"You can take up to a .50-caliber 'hit' — it won't penetrate," Engelbrecht said. And, he added, with supplemental armor, the Stryker can face 14.5mm rocket-propelled grenade rounds.

The Stryker's low-slung silhouette and speedy nature also helps it to survive on the battlefield. The vehicle can travel more than 60 mph on hard roads and maintain 45 mph cross-country, Engelbrecht noted.

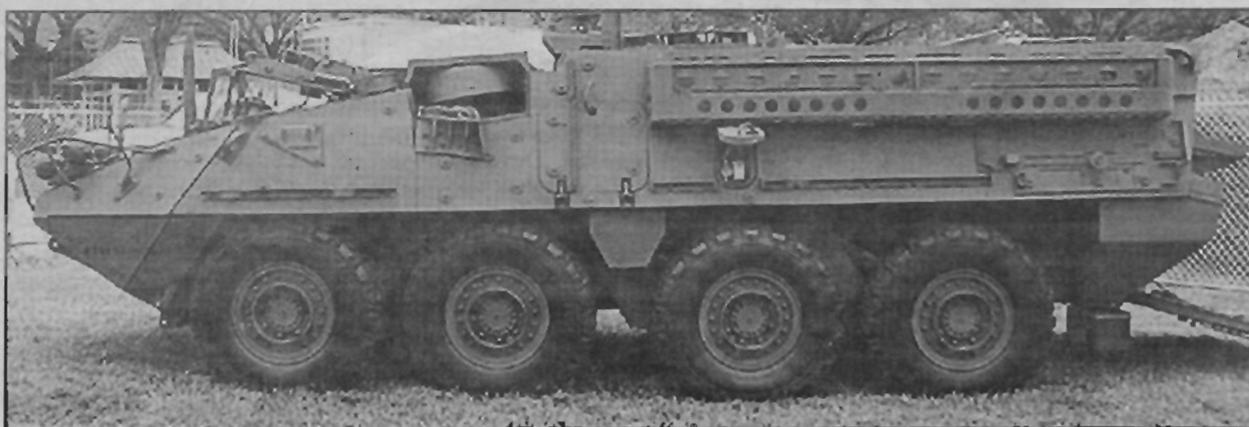


Photo by Gerry J. Gilmore

**DURABLE SYSTEM**— The rubber-tired Stryker weighs 38,000 pounds, can mount a machine gun, grenade launcher, or a 105mm cannon, and can travel more than 60 mph on hard roads and maintain 45 mph cross-country.

It can bite, too, with either a top-mounted, .50-caliber machine gun or Mark 19 grenade launcher as armament.

The gunner operates both weapons via remote control, Engelbrecht said.

Other versions will carry a 105mm gun tube, Engelbrecht noted, for "extra support" to the infantry.

"With the 105, the Stryker will be a tank on wheels," he said.

Eight wheels are easier to maintain in the field than tracks, Engelbrecht said, adding that the Stryker sports "run-flat" tires.

Hard-rubber inner tires allow Stryker drivers to get blowouts "and still move this thing," Gemmell said. To cross heavy mud or sand, the driver can adjust the tire air-pressure, Gemmell said, adding that with 8-wheel-drive

and posi-traction, the Stryker is one nimble beast.

"It's great for getting out of the mud puddles," he said, noting the Stryker can twist and turn "like a pollywog to get out of a tough situation."

Gemmell noted that the old, slow, M-113-based infantry carriers had trouble keeping up with Abrams tanks on the move. The Stryker, he said, has no problem doing so.

The Stryker "is a survivor" and "the absolute way of the future" ... for combined arms, quick-reaction missions, Gemmell noted.

Although the Stryker is an outstanding vehicle, it isn't replacing the Abrams tank, which the Army will have "for quite a while," Engelbrecht noted. "This is a medium-weight vehicle to get our units to the fight a lot faster."

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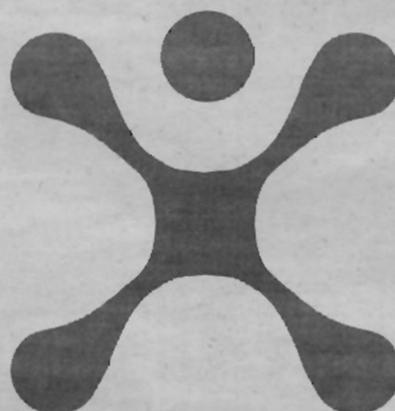
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# Win or lose

## B Company collars momentum entering volleyball tournament

*Bulldogs beat Delta to end regular season*

By SKIP VAUGHN  
Rocket editor  
skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

It was Bravo Company's last chance against unbeaten Delta Company in the regular season for troop volleyball.

The Bulldogs took advantage of the opportunity.

Bravo beat Delta 25-20, 26-24 Thursday night at Pagano Gym. The Bulldogs finished the regular season at 6-2 and gave Delta (7-1) its only loss entering the postseason tournament.

"It was a good way to get us started for the playoffs," Bravo setter Damon Wallace said. "We knew that they were the regular season champs. But we know that it's an indication of what's gonna happen in the playoffs. We have no doubt of that."

The Bulldogs got the win "just by staying focused on the game," said Wallace, who arrived Dec. 7 from Fort Jackson, S.C., and played all season. "Really we

tried to keep our passes coming right to the setter so we could keep our bump-set-spike routine going."

Other members of Bravo's team include setter James Laban, player/coach Luis Billingslea, player/coach Joseph Helminiak and hitters Joshua Pugh, Richard Vasquez, Dustin Sutton, Adam Powers and Charles Ehrmann.

The postseason tournament is scheduled May 21-29 with games at 6 and 6:45 p.m. at Pagano, according to recreation assistant Joe Reed.

Last Wednesday night Delta beat Bravo 13-25, 25-21, 15-10; and the NCO Academy defeated Charlie Company 26-24, 25-23.

On May 14, Delta d. NCO Academy 25-18, 25-21 and HHC 59th d. the Marines 25-10, 25-21. May 13 results included Bravo d. HHC 59th 25-19, 25-18 and Charlie d. the Marines 25-12, 25-13.

The NCO Academy (6-3), defending post champion, finished the regular season atop the Eastern Conference followed by Charlie (4-5), HHC 59th (4-5) and the Marines (2-7). Delta (7-1) edged Bravo (6-2) in the Western Conference.

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**US Army Aviation & Missile Command (AMCOM) and NASA Marshall Space Flight Center**

**"The New World of Security:  
All Information is at Risk"**



**June 5-6, 2002**



**John J. Sparkman Complex  
Building 5304, Bob Jones Auditorium  
Redstone Arsenal, AL**

Expo: June 5-6, 0800 - 1600

Conference: June 5-6, 0730 - 1630

Social: June 5, 1630 - 1730 (in exhibit area)

Pre-register at [www.Technologyforums.com/redstone-nasa.htm](http://www.Technologyforums.com/redstone-nasa.htm)

**FREE ADMISSION  
TO CONFERENCE AND EXPO**

### Conference Topics Include:

- \* Information Assurance
- \* White Collar Crimes and Terrorism
- \* IT Security
- \* Operational Security
- \* Computer Crimes
- \* The Dangerous IT Insider
- \* Homeland Defense and IT Initiatives
- \* Intrusion Detection Tools
- \* Hacker Demonstration
- \* PKI
- \*Real World Threat

Please visit our website, [www.TechnologyForums.com](http://www.TechnologyForums.com) for a complete conference schedule and list of exhibitors.

*\*You must be a US Citizen in order to attend the IT Security and Assurance Conference and Exposition.*

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