

Redstone Rocket

VOL. 53 No. 5

Published in the interest of personnel at Redstone Arsenal, AL

February 4, 2004

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Win or lose

MEDDAC team
flexes muscles
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Air defender gets homeland mission

*Avenger moves from Humvee
to stationary platform in D.C.*

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor
skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

The request was simple but getting it done wouldn't be easy. Homeland defense officials wanted an air defense capability from a fixed location in the national capital region.

This meant putting the Army's Avenger weapon system onto a stationary platform rather than its normal mobile (Humvee) base. It could have taken a year or more to get this done by industry.

Team Redstone did it in three months.

"This was truly a team effort and is indicative of what Team Redstone can do in the future," Maj. Morris Bodrick, assistant product manager for systems sustainment at Short Range Air Defense Project Office, said.

As a result, members of the 1st of the 204th Air Defense Artillery Battalion of the Mississippi National Guard are using an Avenger dismounted configuration in the Washington, D.C. area.

"My part of this mission was easy – the coordination and bringing everybody together, ensuring everybody knew what the requirements were," Bodrick said. "It was amazing how well these organizations came together for a common cause and provided this capability in such a short period of time."

The organizations included the Program Executive Office for Air, Space and Missile Defense and its SHORAD Project Office;

the Research Development and Engineering Center and its Prototype Integration Facility; the 111th Air Defense Artillery Brigade from the New Mexico National Guard and the 1st/204th ADA Battalion; the Training and Doctrine Command system manager for lower tier at Fort Bliss, Texas; the Redstone Technical Test Center; and Boeing.

Officials had to devise a plan for removing the Avenger from a Humvee and putting it onto some kind of stationary plat-

form. They decided on a 16-by-9-foot air-drop platform.

"We designed and replicated the mating points of the turret onto the platform," Gerald Whitley, a Computer Sciences Corporation engineer who works at SHORAD Project Office, said. "The idea is to transition this onto a stationary, fixed platform and maintain all the capabilities that we had on a Humvee."

See Avenger on page 11



Courtesy photo

BY DESIGN— From left engineer Tim Estes, assistant product manager Maj. Morris Bodrick and engineer Gerald Whitley discuss the design for the Avenger dismounted configuration.

Army's strength not necessarily in more numbers

*Chief 'adamantly opposes'
added end strength*

By JIM GARAMONE

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The Army chief of staff "adamantly opposes" an end-strength increase to the size of his service.

Gen. Peter Schoomaker told the House Armed Services Committee Jan. 28 that an unfunded end-strength increase "puts readiness at risk, it puts training at risk, it puts modernization at risk, it puts transformation at risk – and that's why I'm resisting it."

Many in Congress believe the Army is stressed with worldwide operations. One proposal calls for adding two more combat divisions. Another calls for a 40,000-man

increase in the Army, while other, more general proposals just call for end-strength increases.

Schoomaker agrees the Army is stressed, but believes it is a temporary spike and that any plus-up can be done with current resources. He said transforming the Army will result in manpower savings that can be plowed into the combat force. "What we are doing is to transform the Army simultaneously with meeting the security commitment of the nation," he noted.

He also disagreed that the service is facing a recruiting and retention crisis. He said that in 2003, the Army made all its retention goals except for one: Army Reserve

mid-careerist missed by 6 percent. He explained that away by saying stop/loss prevented mid-career NCOs and officers – the primary pool for the Army Reserve – from leaving the service. "Indications this year is that we're on track to make 100 percent of goal across all components," he told the representatives.

See Strength on page 17

'We're making very serious moves to modularize the Army, standardize the Army, developing an Army that's more lethal, more agile, more capable of meeting the current and future operating environment task.'

— Gen. Peter Schoomaker
Army chief of staff

Getting to know you

By KIM MASON
Staff writer
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Name: Jeff Tanner

Job: Badge checker, Sparkman Center building 5303

Where do you call home?
Arab, Ala.

What do you like about your job?
Getting to meet new people.

What do you like to do in your spare time?
I like to hunt, fish and shoot pool.

What are your goals?
To be the best person I can be.



An open lane random survey

Should Alabama have a lottery?

By KELLEY LANE
Staff writer
kelleyqa@bellsouth.net



John Vollbracht
contractor
"Definitely yes. It would generate needed revenue for the state and I wouldn't have to travel out of state to buy my lotto tickets."

Spec. Jason Phelps
2117th Ordnance
"No. It would corrupt our state. That's how I look at it. I have family in Tennessee and now you can't even walk into a gas station and pay for gas without standing there for 10 minutes in line because of the lottery. It's a hassle."



Spec. Jason Lee
2117th Ordnance
"I think we should, actually. If they used the money for the schools like they say they would then I think it would be fine."

Robert Beasley
DoD civilian
"No. It would allow casino gambling and basically a lottery is a regressive tax that hits the people least able to pay for it."



Quote of the week

"The only thing that's going to get you by in this world is an education. That's the only thing that's lasting."
— Janice Vaughn, teacher

Letters to the Editor

Cultivate freedom for all

As you read this, I ask that you read with a willingness to help freedom become a reality in your daily life. Help those who are denied freedom because of skin color, their status, or their stature.

Let us begin to let freedom ring. Most of us are familiar with the phrase "Let freedom ring" and we are aware that there has been a denial of freedom for blacks and others only because of their skin color. But why? Why does my skin create such denial or resentment? Why?

Our Declaration of Independence says that "All men are created equal and they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness" — freedom. Our Creator said that "there is neither Jew nor Gentile; neither male nor female, nor bond nor free: For ye are one in Christ Jesus."

... Yes, all God's people are free, but it is the very act of sin that causes strife, hatred, jealousy and sometimes war. God is not the author of confusion but of peace and love. As a black woman, I'm proud of my heritage and thankful for where we have come from. Just as God was denied and continued to love, let us continue to stand against unjust treatment for all mankind.

Since this is Black History Month, I encourage you this month to cultivate freedom (love) in your home, school, office, wherever you are. Let us not hold on to the past, but press, press toward the mark of a higher calling. Destiny does not lie in the past.

Nancy B. Readus
engineering technician
Standardization Office, RDEC

Aggrieved with grievance process

I would like to comment on an article in the Jan. 21 *Redstone Rocket* titled, "Employees' union still in business." The article stated that a rumor has circulated that the union went out of business with the recent passage of legislation at the national level. Don Eiermann, president of American Federation of Government Employees Local 1858, stated that "the union is not going away and management is going to continue to work with us in the same fashion until specifically directed to do otherwise."

Well, I believe the rumor is true! I think the union has gone out of business. Let me take a minute of your time to show you how the union has represented me.

In March 2003, I was notified that I was not selected for several GS-13 positions in the Acquisition Center. I talked with several people who have filed grievances through the union in the past and was told that "they did nothing" to help them. However, my understanding is that the union is here to help employees through the grievance process. So, I called the union office and was assigned a representative. The first representative I was assigned did not answer my calls or e-mails. I again called the union office to explain the situation and was assigned a

new representative. I met and discussed with my new representative my situation and he informed me to notify my supervisor of my Step 1 grievance which I did in April.

The Step 1 meeting was held with my supervisor, union representative and me in April. The debriefing I had requested from Col. Scott Wilson, the selecting official, was held in May and was attended by me, Col. Wilson and my union representative. The debriefing led me to believe that I was not given credit for all my experience, so I decided to pursue Step 2 of the grievance process. I informed my supervisor and she requested a Step 2 meeting with Acquisition Center director Marlene Cruze to be held by May 30 in accordance with the union agreement. The union representative requested the meeting with Ms. Cruze be put on hold until he received a response from Civilian Personnel Advisory Center (the information on the selections).

From May through August, I requested the status from my union representative. The reply was always, "still waiting on CPAC to provide the information." In August, my union representative sent an inquiry to CPAC asking when the

See Grievance on page 3

Redstone Rocket

Editorial office 876-1500 Editorial fax 955-9138 Retail Advertising 532-4539 Classified Advertising 532-4300 Fax 532-4349

The *Redstone Rocket* is published weekly on Wednesday. The publisher will receive editorial content for publication in The *Redstone Rocket* through the Public Affairs Office, Army Garrison-Redstone, Bldg. 5300 Room 5144, Redstone Arsenal AL 35898.

The civilian enterprise printer of the *Redstone Rocket* is *The Huntsville Times*, located at 2317 S. Memorial Parkway, Huntsville AL 35801.

The deadline for display and commercial classified is 5 p.m. Friday before Wednesday publication.

email: redstone-rocket@redstone.army.mil
Rocket articles are available online at the following:
https://publicaffairs2.redstone.army.mil:7443/pls/pao_o/pao_home

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The *Redstone Rocket* is distributed free of cost to Army personnel at Redstone Arsenal, and

Research Park, Huntsville. Mailing rates off post for The *Rocket* are \$30 per year, tax included. We do not guarantee timely delivery. "Third class mail may receive deferred service. The Postal Service does not guarantee the delivery of third class mail within a specified time." (Article 630 of the Domestic Mail Manual) We do not send subscription renewal notices.

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Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

The Provost Marshal Office provided the following list of reported incidents:

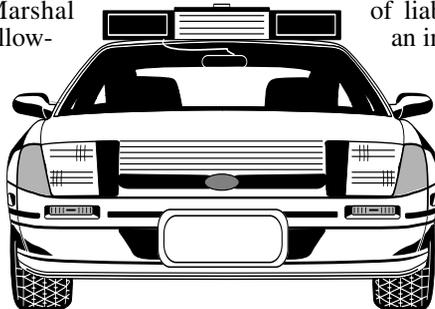
Jan. 22: An individual was issued two violation notices at Gate 9 after an inspection of his vehicle revealed a small amount of marijuana and drug paraphernalia. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Jan. 23: An individual was found to have used his government issued computer to access sexually explicit web sites. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

Jan. 23: A soldier was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a revoked driver's license and no proof of liability insurance during an inspection at Gate 9. He was issued two violation notices and released.

Jan. 24: An individual reported that his personal vehicle was damaged as he drove across a portable barrier at Gate 9.

Jan. 25: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol and having no proof



of liability insurance during an inspection at Gate 1. He was issued two violation notices and detained at the Provost Marshal Office until his blood alcohol level reached the legal limit.

Jan. 25: An individual reported that his personal vehicle was damaged as he drove across a portable barrier at Gate 8.

Jan. 26: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a revoked driver's license during an internal checkpoint inspection at Gate 4. He was issued a violation notice and released.

Traffic accidents reported: 11 without injuries, none with injuries.

Violation notices issued: 38 speeding, 1 fleeing the scene of a traffic accident, 1 driving under the influence, 2 driving with a suspended/revoked driver's license, 2 failure to maintain liability insurance, 2 expired registration, 2 parking violation, 1 trespassing, 1 possession of a controlled substance and 1 possession of drug paraphernalia.

Tornado on radar for mass casualty exercise

Fox Army Health Center will conduct a winter weather and mass casualty exercise Thursday.

The exercise will be centered around a simulated tornado that touches down by Gate 7, Martin Road West, and strikes the Software Engineering Directorate building 6260, resulting in the simulation of damage to the building and two injuries. The tornado also hits the Flying Activity, building 4828, resulting in more damage and two injuries. Last, the tornado damages Rideout Road, making

it impassable, before hitting the Golf Course Clubhouse, resulting in more damage, 10 injuries and two deaths.

Garrison and FAHC activities will be able to test and follow their response requirements and emergency drill procedures during the simulation.

Employees can expect a significant amount of activity in the area between FAHC and the golf course, as Emergency Response Teams treat and evacuate simulated casualties from 1:30-3:30 p.m.

■ Worker still waiting on grievance

Grievance

continued from page 2

requested information would be available. CPAC's response to my union representative in August was that they were still waiting for the Acquisition Center to provide them the requested information. My union representative then notified me that the union was filing an Unfair Labor Practice against the Acquisition Center which was to be filed that day. After several months without any word, I requested the status of my grievance from my union representative. My union representative informed me that the union is waiting for a hearing to be scheduled on the Unfair Labor Practice.

This is my first experience with the grievance process. However, I can now understand why there are rumors that the union has gone away and that employees say things like, "the union did nothing to help them." I am totally frustrated and critical of the process. I believe these stall tactics are being utilized to frustrate people so that they give up pursuing their grievances. I can understand why only a small percentage of the AMCOM population has joined the union.

Since the established grievance process does not seem to work in a timely and professional manner, is there any other avenue available to employees to seek answers to their perceived injustices and bring final closure to these situations? Since my situation has languished for almost a year, I welcome any help you can provide.

Name withheld by request

Editor's note: Don Eiermann, president of AFGE Local 1858, provided the following response. "Since this is an active case, both in the grievance process and the subject of an Unfair Labor Practice, I cannot comment on the specifics involved in the writers statements. Although there are some aspects of the grievance procedure that may be in need of further review, the process itself is good. The delay in most grievances is attributable to waiting for information disclosures and rescheduling of meetings. We will work to improve the process, but it cannot be fixed overnight. If the writer of the letter wishes to help in improving the grievance procedure, I would be happy to meet and discuss their ideas."

The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center responded to the letter as follows. "The grievance process itself can be fairly quick if all parties are available and prepared to meet. However, frequently information is requested and it is the responsibility of the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center to gather that information. As a result of more responsibility being given to managers and the centralization of the merit promotion process to the Civilian Personnel Operations Center, the CPAC must request the required information from management and the CPOC. The CPOC retains all information including applications/merit promotion packages from the candidates and all records documenting the selection. The managers retain all matrix information and all records pertaining to the selection process. (The selection process is the step that occurs after the CPOC has provided a list of Best Qualified candidates to management.) Therefore, when information is requested in the grievance process that involves merit promotion actions the CPAC must request that information from the organization making the selection, in this case the Acquisition Center, and the CPOC. The CPAC then sanitizes the information provided so that all personal identifiers and data subject to the Privacy Act is removed prior to delivering the information to the union.

"This process in some cases has taken too long," CPOC said. "However, without knowing the specific situation since we have dealt with approximately 10 grievance related requests for information in the last year it is difficult to discern the specific facts in this case. The CPAC records currently show that all information requested which was available and management is obligated to provide has been delivered to the union, including the information cited as examples in the referenced Unfair Labor Practice Charge. Soon the Federal Labor Relations Authority will determine the validity of the charge and if management has met their legal requirement to provide information to the union as needed to process employee grievances.

"If this employee needs further information on the grievance process, he or she can contact Kitty Williams at 313-5889 who will ensure that the required assistance is provided."

Garrison transformation: more than meets the eye

Devlin calls work force the best in the Army

By SANDY RIEBELING
Staff writer
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"Can you hear me now?" Garrison commander Bob Devlin joked as he worked out technical difficulties with his microphone in front of a packed auditorium Jan. 27 at the Diane Campbell Recreation Center.

"Can you hear me now," he repeated, adjusting the equipment until his voice carried loud and clear to the back of the crowded room. Devlin had a message to deliver at his annual State of the Garrison address and he wanted to make sure everyone heard it.

"This is about saying thanks to the best garrison in the Army," Devlin said. "We're the best in the world — without a doubt — the best. What you do here makes a difference out there in the world and to the soldier in the field. Sometimes it's hard to make the link between the Garrison folks here and the systems fielded in Iraq but there's an important connection. You all have a lot to do with how we defend the nation."

Devlin talked to the work force about the mission both near and far, from the daily operations that provide installation support to the overall contribution of mission readiness for soldiers and systems at home and abroad.

Planning for the bigger picture was also on the agenda, reminding folks that the Arsenal is changing, growing with construction projects at the airfield, FBI Hazardous Devices Training Facility, additions to the Software Engineering Directorate, a propulsion research lab at Marshall Space Flight Center, a new bowling center, four additional phases to the Von Braun Complex, the widening of Martin Road, completion of the new dining facility, the possibility of a cinema and on and on.

"We're looking to the future, trying to figure out where everyone is going — to plan what we're doing as a garrison — and how to support them," Devlin said. He talked about privatizing utilities and turning housing over to a contractor within the next 18 months. He had pictures of the three new general's quarters gifted to the Arsenal by the city of Huntsville. "There's going to be changes. The National Guard unit on the gate is going to be gone in three months, replaced by contractors. You're going to see less and less green suiters."

Fewer active duty soldiers stationed at Redstone is perhaps the most obvious change happening in the garrison but not the only one by far. Behind the scenes, a reorganization has quietly been taking

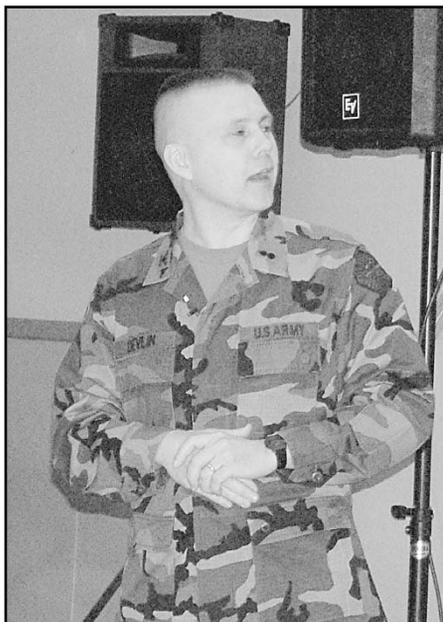


Photo by Sandy Riebeling
GIVING THANKS—Garrison commander Col. Bob Devlin says job well done to hundreds of workers at the annual State of the Garrison address at the Diane Campbell Recreation Center.

place for about the last five months among the offices and directorates under garrison command

Nearly two years ago, the Army announced a transformation plan that would separate management of the installation's mission function and the base operation function. Funds would no longer be intermingled between the two, borrowing and sharing back and forth between making missiles and repairing roofs.

The Army's Transformation of Installation Management, established in October 2003, put base operations (the garrison) under a newly formed Installation Management Agency which oversees and directs funding for most of the 180 installations worldwide.

Redstone falls under the Southeast Regional Office headquartered in Atlanta. Since the initial management move five months ago, the garrison has been aligning itself to fit a template structure handed down by IMA for garrisons across the Army.

"Most of the changes have been more paper changes than physical moves," Todd Hutto, chief of Plans, Analysis and Integration Office for the garrison, said. Hutto is a prime example of ongoing effort at the garrison. Up until last week, he was the director of the Directorate of Business Management, which was eliminated and its functions divided among several existing directorates.

"When all of the garrisons came under IMA, they all looked different (structural-



Photo by Sandy Riebeling
BUFFET BONANZA— Jane Seltzer and Charles Ham get a bite to eat before the presentation at the annual Garrison meeting.

ly)," Hutto said. IMA wanted to structure all the garrisons alike for more efficient management. "It only makes sense," he said. "Otherwise you have to manage each installation separately."

Some common sense changes have occurred, such as pulling the fire department and emergency medical responders out of the Directorate of Public Works and putting them under the Directorate of Public Safety, which already manages the Provost Marshal Office.

"It's a smart move to put them all together — police, guards, firefighters, emergency responders," Hutto said. "It creates a synergy and helps the organization flow together better."

A new organization, the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security, gathered several functions scattered across the Arsenal including, emergency operations center, airfield, training ranges, threat assessment, etc.

Some directorates experienced only minor changes but got name changes. The new Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation is made up personnel mostly from the former Directorate of Personnel and Community Activities but a few were pulled, along with some people from the Directorate of Business Management to

create the Human Resources Directorate. Some functions stayed under AMCOM but continue to support the garrison — legal office, internal review, inspector general, contracting.

Only 12 workers have physically moved under the reorganization. No slots have been eliminated under this ongoing restructure. "In fact, it's created lots of opportunity for promotion," Hutto said. "And we will remain flexible until we get everyone settled where they should be."

"This restructuring is the right move to align the garrisons to better serve the customer base on all installations," Darrell Brewer, deputy to the garrison commander, said. "The atmosphere has been good with the changes. To the customers, it's transparent. They get the same services."

So it has been under uncertain circumstances that this crew has maintained "the best garrison in the Army" status and Devlin wanted them all to feel appreciated, each person with each letter typed, floor shined, roof repaired, car maintained, gate guarded, and life saved.

"We've got a good garrison — good people," Devlin said. "What makes a garrison work is good people. We're the best in the Army."

Changes planned for initial entry training

Soldiers should experience realistic combat conditions

By Spec. RYAN MCCLYMONT
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As of Jan. 30, the Department of Defense has identified 519 U.S. servicemembers who have died during Operation Iraqi Freedom. Of those killed, 361 died from injuries inflicted by hostile forces while 158 died of non-hostile injuries.

“What we do is a dangerous business,” said Col. Kevin Shwedo, the director of operations and training at the Army Accessions Command. “We have got to train soldiers how to survive in a conventional combat environment and the mentality we have to get into as an Army is that there is no front line anymore.”

Shwedo was part of a 16-member assessment team of subject matter experts from the Training and Doctrine Command that arrived at Redstone Arsenal Jan 20. The team was led by Lt. Gen. Dennis Cavin, the commander of AAC and deputy commanding general of initial entry training. The team observed every aspect of IET life on the installation from dining and healthcare, to administration and safety. Of all the areas observed, however, its main focus was on the quality of training taking place at Redstone.

The Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School has more than 1,100 military and civilian personnel that conduct and support 101 courses and train 6,000 soldiers annually. During the four-day visit the team assessed the installation’s current efforts in IET, assisted the commander in eliminating problem areas and provided information to improve and develop training. The goal of TRADOC is to ensure that combat service

support personnel get the type of training and equipment that they need to survive in harsh combat conditions.

“What we are learning from the contemporary operating environment is that we owe America’s sons and daughters far better training than we are giving them right now,” Shwedo said.

One way for the Army to evaluate the quality of training programs and their effect on battle command, situational awareness, leader and soldier disciplines, and skills down to the lowest levels, is through field training exercises. An FTX is meant to simulate real operational scenarios. Basic combat training soldiers are required to spend three consecutive days in the field, and the time for soldiers in advanced individual training varies by military occupational specialty.

“Rigor is the number one thing that we have got, we are not stressing these soldiers right now,” Shwedo said. “If they do not get but a couple of hours of sleep and miss a meal on a three day FTX that is not evil, that is the reality of life in today’s Army.”

The assessment team came to evaluate and improve training. It found some exceptional areas that it will use as models for other IET sites; and it also found areas needing improvement. The key message was that training standards are going to change to prepare soldiers for what they will face in the operational Army.

“We are soldiers first,” Brig. Gen. William Lenaers, chief of Ordnance at the Army Ordnance Center and Schools, said. “We may be service support, but we are combat service support. We are soldiers and we are warriors. We have to adopt the warrior mindset and get out there in tough conditions, do tough things, be hungry, be cold and be wet. We can’t be successful as TRADOC and Accessions Command unless you are successful at getting trained soldiers into the field ready for the rigors of war.”

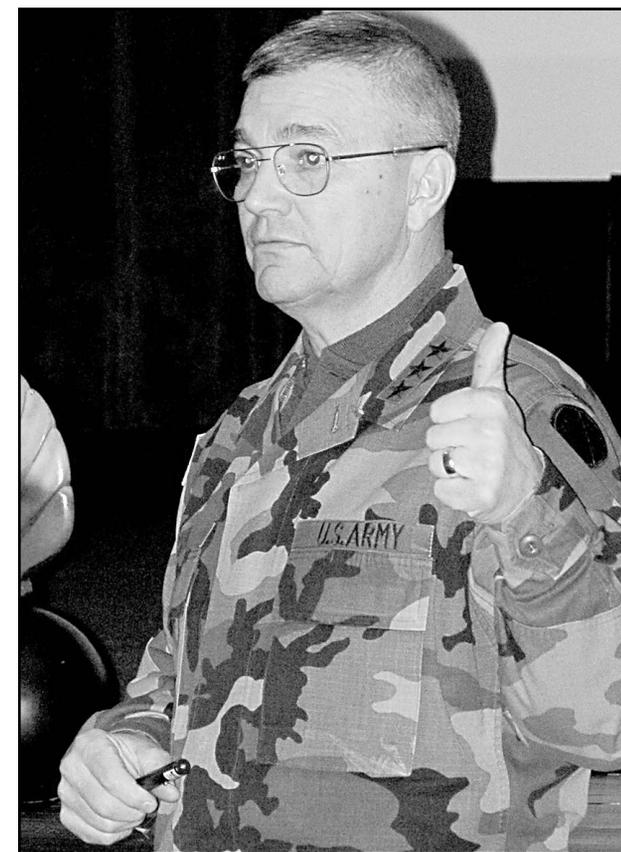


Photo by Spec. Ryan McClymont

THUMBS UP— Lt. Gen. Dennis Cavin, commander of Army Accessions Command and deputy commander of initial entry training, answers a question during the IET briefing.

Teledyne Brown receives contract for hazardous waste disposal

TELEDYNE RELEASE

LOS ANGELES — Teledyne Brown Engineering Inc. has been awarded a \$13.7 million environmental contract from the Army to continue its operation of the Army Non Stockpile Chemical Materiel Program’s Rapid Response System, a mobile, on-site system used to destroy hazardous chemicals. The contract has a potential value of \$20 million if all options are exercised.

The rapid response system, which has been successfully operated by Teledyne Brown for the past eight years in Utah and Alaska, under this new contract, will be used to destroy Chemical Agent Identification Sets in Pine Bluff, Ark. The sets were developed by the Army 70 years ago

to train soldiers in chemical warfare agent identification. The Army is now destroying these obsolete training sets at various locations across the United States.

“We look forward to continuing our work with the Army and helping them achieve their goals for safe and timely disposal of hazardous chemicals,” said Robert Mehrabian, chairman, president and chief executive officer of Teledyne Technologies. “We have assembled a team of highly trained personnel who are uniquely capable of performing these tasks. It is a credit to our team that we have been accident free since our work began.”

The rapid response system can also be deployed anywhere around the world to handle emergency CAIS recovery.

New faces revitalize Acquisition Center

Higher headquarters funds record 40 intern positions

By KIM MASON
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Christy Tarantini is a single mother who has been seeking stability and a long-term future in the government. The Acquisition Center gave her that opportunity.

"It's nice to be able to have a good job with a future. It is also meaningful to have a job supporting the troops," she said. "Here I feel like what I do directly affects the troops, which brings everything in perspective."

Tarantini is one of the record 40 interns recently hired to train in the Acquisition Center.

"We're setting records here," Marlene Cruze, director of the center, said. "We are revitalizing the work force with new blood."

The center has 62 people in the intern program and 40 were hired in September. Last year Army Materiel Command

implemented a major intern hiring effort. The Acquisition Center requested and filled all 40 intern positions with its recruiting techniques already in place.

Tammie Terry, chief of the support operations division of the center, led the effort to fill the positions. She and Willis Epps, director of the business management office, contacted local colleges and universities and encouraged those graduating to apply for the positions. This resulted in a diverse group being hired.

The interns applied through open announcements on the web site www.usajobs.gov.opm. The North Central Civilian Personnel Operations Center in Rock Island, Ill., qualified and ranked all applicants.

The AMC intern career program-14 takes two years to complete and includes on-the-job and formal training requirements. The interns begin at GS-7, advance to GS-9 after a year and graduate as GS-11 contract specialist, if all requirements are met.

The interns get the full gamut of the contracting experience by rotating in dif-



Photo by Kim Mason

SHARING STORIES— Marlene Cruze, director of Acquisition Center, takes time to get to know interns from left Rita Owens, Tiffany Williams, Christy Tarantini, James Bailey and Cliff Nichols.

ferent areas of the Acquisition Center, such as operations, spares and major items.

Formal training includes courses from Defense Acquisition University, Army Logistics Management College and the Acquisition Center University. The Acquisition Center has worked with AMC to develop ways of meeting shortages in course availability.

The ultimate goal for an intern is to become a contracting officer. "This is an awesome responsibility," Cruze said. "AMCOM Acquisition contracting officers obligated \$10 billion to major

defense contractors in FY '03."

Cruze is excited about the increase in interns and can relate to their experiences at a new job. "I know how it feels," she said. "I especially understand what it is like to go from school to the government. The learning process is different. It can be very frustrating."

Cruze started as a presidential intern for the Navy. She laughs now about mistakes she made while in the intern program.

See Interns on page 9

Compact missile meets Army's need for speed

Highly lethal force of impact replaces explosive warhead

MILTEC CORPORATION RELEASE

A team consisting of Miltec Corporation and Northrop Grumman Corporation performed a successful controlled flight test of the Compact Kinetic Energy Missile on Jan. 16.

Conducted under contract and in collaboration with the Aviation and Missile Command, the demonstration took place at the Eglin Air Force Base test range in Florida. All test objectives were achieved.

CKEM is being developed as the Army's next-generation hypervelocity missile intended for deployment from lightweight, highly mobile manned and unmanned ground vehicles. At 60 inches long and just under 100 pounds, it measures about half the size of the current kinetic energy missile but maintains a highly lethal capability against advanced armor, complex bunkers, and other hardened targets. A kinetic weapon carries no explosive warhead, defeating its target solely through the force of impact.

"This successful flight test conducted by the Miltec-Northrop Grumman team marks yet another significant step in maturing the CKEM design and technologies," George Snyder, CKEM program manager for the Research Development and Engineering Center, said. "Lethality tests performed at the Holloman Air Force Base High Speed Test Track facility last year demonstrated that CKEM is capable of easily defeating heavy-armor with overwhelming lethality provided sufficient velocity is achieved. This test



Courtesy photo

IN CONTROL— The Compact Kinetic Energy Missile shows velocity and control during flight test.

demonstrated that velocity and control are now well within the achievable state of the art."

Dr. William Forster, vice president of Land Combat Systems at Northrop Grumman, added, "This test demonstrates that the CKEM team's approach is well on its way to delivering an outstanding capability for future Army forces: a lightweight, multimission system that will provide one-shot, one-kill lethality against heavy armor, bunkers and fortified emplacements."

Ivy Pinion, president of Miltec Missiles and Space Co., said, "This test

demonstrated the maturity of advancements in missile system propulsion, control systems, avionics, miniaturized guidance systems, and missile integration. This success further demonstrated CKEM provides a viable option to the Future Combat System requirement for a line-of-sight kinetic energy antitank weapon.

"Our small-business strategy of advancing the technology as rapidly as possible while proactively mitigating associated risks has paid off," he added. "Our tests confirm that we have a CKEM design that packs an incredible degree of lethality in a small, lightweight airframe.

Guided artillery system development launched

Fielding scheduled for fiscal 2008

By JULIANNA ROEBER
For the Rocket

The Precision Fires Rocket & Missile Systems Program Management Office in conjunction with the system prime contractor, Lockheed Martin Missiles & Fire Control - Dallas, officially kicked off the Guided Multiple Launch Rocket System Unitary System Design and Development Program in December in Grand Prairie, Texas.

Following an introduction by Lt. Col. Stephen Lee, product manager for Precision Guided Munitions, Darren McConnell, assistant product manager for the PGM Unitary Program, briefed participants on the program scope, system description, recent accomplishments and scheduled milestones.

"We had strong government-contractor team support throughout this effort to get the contract negotiated, awarded and through the kickoff meeting and preliminary design review," McConnell said. "I think it is a wise investment of time to get everyone together to make sure we are on the same sheet of music. Overall, the success of the program is dependent upon keeping everyone focused on the same goals."

Lockheed Martin then presented the program overview covering the technical phase of the GMLRS Unitary SDD Program. Lt. Col. Jeff Froyland, the TRADOC systems manager's representative from the Field Artillery School in Fort Sill, Okla., also participated.

The SDD contract was awarded after a seamless transition from the Component Advanced Development Contract awarded to Lockheed Martin earlier this year. The initial work performed under the CAD Program, initiated in January 2003, helped to mitigate system risk prior to the SDD contract being signed. The contract was awarded in September, just two weeks after proposal submission.

'I was very pleased to see the progress the government and Lockheed Martin team has made on the GMLRS Unitary program. They will deliver a needed capability to our warfighters much faster than ever before.'

— Lt. Col. Stephen Lee
product manager

Since the signing of the CAD contract, the PFRMS PMO successfully executed a Milestone B Decision Review that approved the award of the SDD contract. The Milestone C Decision Review is scheduled for the middle of fiscal '07 and will be followed by Low Rate Initial Production on the same production line as GMLRS with the Dual-Purpose Improved Conventional Munitions warhead.

Using a single, 200-pound, high-explosive warhead, the GMLRS Unitary rocket provides the warfighter with an added capability beyond the GMLRS equipped with a DPICM warhead. GMLRS Unitary provides the capability to engage additional target sets where use of bomblets is neither effective nor desirable. The GMLRS Unitary is a low collateral damage, precision rocket that is effective against critical area and point targets located in restrictive terrain. It is a modification to the existing M26 rocket that leverages the previous design improvements for the GMLRS DPICM and inserts spiraling improvements in technologies to deliver a new increment in capability.

The GMLRS Unitary will integrate a multi-mode fuze and high-explosive war-

head with insensitive munition qualities into a rocket with the same dimensions as GMLRS DPICM. Follow-on configuration efforts will include an IM-compliant rocket motor, Global Positioning System Anti-Jam capability, and other technology opportunities (e.g., payloads, trajectory shaping, guidance, Cost as an Independent Variable initiatives).

GMLRS Unitary satisfies a validated user requirement and will be fielded in fiscal '08 to support early entry forces, Brigade Combat Teams (Stryker brigades), and the units of action in the Objective Force. GMLRS with the Unitary and DPICM warheads are the baseline for future Artillery Precision Rocket Munitions and are critical to the Army's current and Objective Force.

"I was very pleased to see the progress the government and Lockheed Martin team has made on the GMLRS Unitary program. They will deliver a needed capability to our warfighters much faster than ever before," Lee said.

Editor's note: Julianna Roeber works for System Studies & Simulation Inc., a contractor for Precision Fires Rocket & Missile Systems under the Program Executive Office for Tactical Missiles.

Committee creates environment for partnership

Environmental issues addressed in forum

By KIM GILLESPIE
For the Rocket

"It is rocket science at its best," said Garrison commander Col. Bob Devlin. But he was not referring to the aviation, missile or even Marshall Space Flight's activities. Devlin was talking about Redstone Arsenal's environmental programs, and the function of the Environmental Quality Control Committee.

Terry Hazle, director of the Environment and Safety Directorate, describes the committee and its purpose as "a way of sharing information." Both Hazle and Devlin emphasize that the large number of tenants on Redstone Arsenal means working together as a team to comply with environmental laws and regulations is not an option, but a requirement.

Hazle reinstated the Environmental

Quality Control Committee in 2003. The committee was at one time used to brief environmental issues to higher levels, but the EQCC is now what Hazle describes as a "working level" group. The committee, chaired by the Garrison commander, uses the quarterly, one-hour meetings "to bring together all the folks from the various organizations that handle environmental tasks and issues to share information and resolve environmental issues," Hazle said.

Sharing knowledge

Gene Daniels, an environmental engineer with the Installation Compliance Team, coordinates the meetings, which incorporates the many diverse and complex missions at Redstone.

"We try to have three or four topics for each meeting," Daniels said. "For instance, last quarter, the presentations included military range environmental issues from the Installation Restoration Team, pollution prevention and sustainability at Marshall Space Flight Center, and an overview of the Local Emergency Planning Committee."

Daniels included the Local Emergency Planning Committee topics at the last meeting and combined the two committees into one because members of the EQCC are also members of the Local Emergency Planning Committee. "We save time by covering the issues of Local Emergency Planning Committee in this meeting," he said. Daniels emphasizes that the EQCC has been successful so far because, while the missions of the organizations vary, everyone still falls under the same regulations and must handle hazardous waste, hazardous materials and environmental issues the same way.

Craig Northridge, chief of the Installation Compliance Division, also noted the benefits of gaining knowledge from other organizations' environmental work.

"At the September 2003 meeting last year, Northrop Grumman BAT discussed how they managed their hazardous wastes. Some of the procedures they utilize, based on their experiences here and elsewhere, can be transferred to other organizations on the installation," Northridge said. "For example, it may give someone doing maintenance an idea of how to implement a better procedure in managing their waste."

Northridge also used a prior meeting to discuss the new Hazardous Waste/Air Permit for Open Burn/Open Detonation, while a Solid Waste Management presentation last September introduced the new Material Certification and Delivery Ticket

forms that anyone using the Redstone Arsenal Construction and Demolition Landfill would need to submit.

Meeting agenda

"We are always looking for new and better ideas," Devlin said. His reference to rocket science was based on the amount of planning, work and technical expertise that goes into making a successful environmental program — and not just in interpreting and implementing regulations. "One example is the great success we've had with the Harper's Umbrella Plant, a state-listed threatened species," Devlin said.

He cites conservation and protection as just another way Redstone is proving itself to be a leader in environmental work by not only finding the best approaches and technology, but also in establishing productive partnerships with other groups and organizations.

Devlin and Hazle welcome Team Redstone members interested in the EQCC to attend the meetings. The next meeting is Feb. 10 from 9-10 a.m. in building 4488, room A-311. A Chugach Management Services representative is scheduled to discuss the recycling facility as the featured presentation. Mosquitoes/West Nile virus, and Risk Management and Decision Making are also included on the agenda. Anyone outside the committee interested in attending or has questions should call Gene Daniels at 955-7591.

Center acquires future contract specialists

Interns

continued from page 6

"The moral of the story is that you learn from your mistakes. You hold yourself accountable for mistakes and say, 'yes, I did it,'" she said. "There is so much in the government that isn't taught anywhere else."

The center guides its interns in on-the-job training through mentors. "Every intern is assigned a person in their division to take them under their wing, to

plug them in and show them the resources available," Terry said.

Cruze thinks the learning experience between the mentor and the intern seems to be two fold. "When an intern asks questions about the mentor's job it makes them pause and really think 'Why am I doing this, this way?'"

"The new interns have shown remarkable motivation, great intelligence, a willingness to learn and a high work ethic," Terry said. "They are outstanding team players."

Don't lose out when shipping household goods

Documented inventory best defense for move

By JAMES FRIDAY
Claims adjudicator

As you prepare for your next move, there are certain things you should know which will assist you in filing a claim if your property is lost or damaged.

First and foremost, most claims are paid based on the documentary evidence claimants supply to establish that a loss occurred and value of the loss. The Personnel Claims Act requires substantiation of claims to include both that the loss occurred as alleged and the value of that loss.

In establishing that a loss occurred, there is no set rule of how much evidence the claimant must provide. The following information will help you the next time you need to file a claim for damage or loss to household goods.

The inventory is the most important document used in establishing a loss of household goods or hold baggage. A well prepared inventory, listing the contents of boxes in detail, will normally serve as sufficient proof of tender. However, if the claimant asserts that unlisted items are missing, he or she may be required to provide purchase receipts or similar proof of ownership (e.g. pictures or prior appraisals) in order to get paid. A state-

ment by the claimant stating that he owned the items in question and that he or she personally saw those items being packed and placed in the truck will also be required.

In substantiating the value of damaged or lost property, as a rule of thumb the claimant will be required to prove the value of items in excess of \$100. Again, the best way to do this is with a purchase receipt; however, value can be proved with estimates, prior appraisals, paid bills, or similar documents.

In the absence of acceptable proof of value, claimants may be paid a reasonable value for the items. However, this amount will likely be lower than the actual value of the item.

To prepare yourself in case your property is damaged or lost during shipment, do the following: Prepare your own packing list, noting all servicenumbers, and listing every item of substantial value. Ensure that packers list serial numbers of all electronic items on the inventory before you sign it. Go over the inventory list thoroughly before signing it. Make sure you agree with everything on the list. Remember, if the carrier indicates on the inventory that some of your items are scratched or chipped and you sign it without dispute, this means that you agree with it. If there are disputes with the carrier, contact the Quality Control Section, Transportation Office at 876-7631.

Do not ship paperwork or receipts

which prove the ownership and value of your property. Take pictures of your property. This will help prove you owned /shipped the items. If you are shipping a television, make sure your remote control is listed on the inventory, or better yet, hand carry your remote control. Claims for missing remote controls are much too common. Make sure the number of CDs, and VCR tapes shipped are indicated on the inventory. Also, make a separate list of these items. This will help you substantiate the value if they are lost.

Never ship expensive jewelry. Always carry it. Remember, the higher the value of an item, the more proof of ownership and value is required. High value items are also more attractive to thieves.

Claims are settled based on the docu-

mentary evidence claimants supplied to establish that a loss has occurred and the value of the loss. A claimant that cannot prove that the loss has occurred as alleged is entitled to no compensation. A claimant who proves that the loss has occurred but fails to confirm the value is entitled to an award in some amount.

Remember, the claims system is not designed to be a comprehensive insurance policy. We cannot pay full value for every lost, damaged or destroyed item. Consequently, you should consider obtaining private insurance through the Transportation Office or a private insurance company.

If you have any questions you may call James Friday, the claims adjudicator, at 876-9006.



Harold Garner/Photo Lab

Banner day

The Acquisition Center Maintenance and Special Projects Support team has won the Contract Professional of the Quarter Award. From left are lead contract specialist Cheryl Moore-Davis, contract specialist Glynis Thomison, contract specialist Emily Springer and Acquisition Center director Marlene Cruze.

Avenger

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The platform was given the same configuration to house the electronic components – including the slew-to-cue and the enhanced position location receiver. Provisions were also made for easier maintenance access.

Members of the Prototype Integration Facility worked with the SHORAD Project Office to fabricate the design and order equipment from Oct. 1 through Dec. 30. Near the end of this first phase, members of the 1st/204th ADA Battalion visited the Prototype Integration Facility from Dec. 10-12 to finalize the configuration. Additional requirements were addressed such as stairs and safety rails for the elevated platform.

“At the PIF, we were able to adjust and work with the changes as they occurred,” Tim Estes, an engineer at the Prototype Integration Facility, said.

Two platforms were delivered Dec. 31 to the battalion in the national capital region. In the second phase, from Jan. 5-9, one of the platforms went to Fort Belvoir, Va., for checking the weapon system with the Sentinel radar and the forward area air defense command and control which allows the Avenger to communicate with other systems. The third and final phase occurred Jan. 10 with the platform's emplacement in the Washington, D.C. area. The remaining platform will be emplaced once a decision is made on a second site.

“Our mission (at the Prototype Integra-

tion Facility) is to kind of team with customers like SHORAD to help them with development of systems like this,” Estes said. “We try to be as flexible as we can to accommodate needs of customers as they come along.”

“The PIF is so unique,” Whitley said. “They've pooled all those resources in one location. It's kind of like a one-stop shop.”

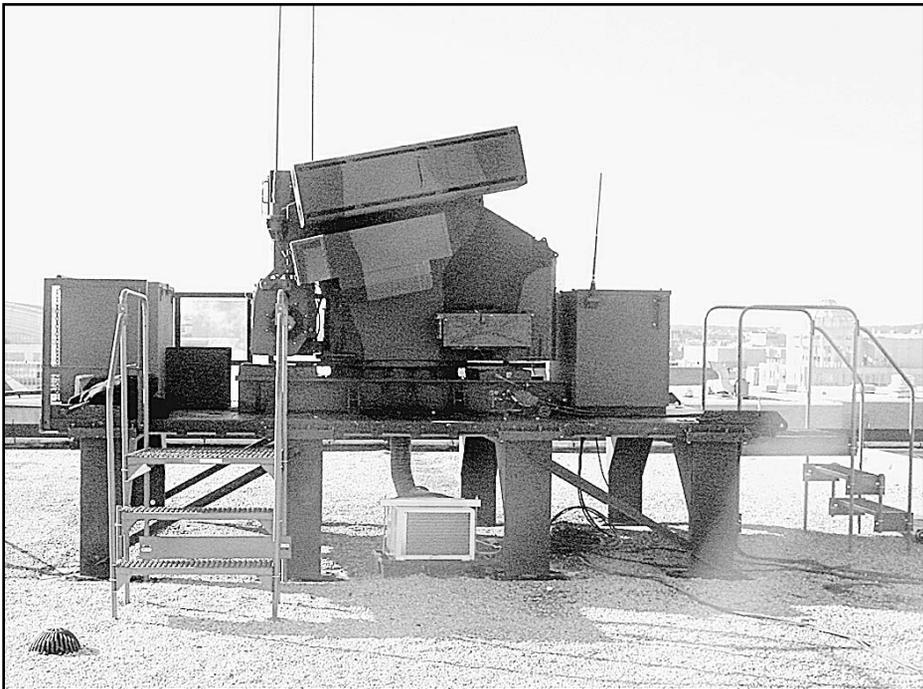
Doing the work in-house and using existing hardware helped speed development of the Avenger dismounted configuration.

“The initial thinking when we received this mission was it could take up to nine months to complete,” Bodrick said. “And with using the existing supplies within the Army's inventory, we were able to make this system operational in support of the homeland defense mission (in three months).”

It was an accelerated development by design. “This process was streamlined for the explicit purpose of supporting a rapid air defense capability in the national capital region,” Bodrick said.

The homeland defense request came from North American Air Defense to the joint air defense operations center, operated by the 111th Air Defense Artillery Brigade. SHORAD Project Office, under Col. Rick De Fatta, received the requirement last August.

“This particular configuration was specifically designed to support the air defense mission in the national capital region,” Bodrick said, “and may have applications for similar missions in various regions in the future in support of our homeland defense mission.”



Courtesy photo

NEW VERSION— Members of the 1st of the 204th Air Defense Artillery Battalion of the Mississippi National Guard are using an Avenger dismounted configuration in the Washington, D.C. area.

Provost marshal workers put CPR into practice

Two receive recognition for saving security guard

By KIM MASON
Staff writer
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Security guard sergeant Thomas Jemison and police officer Mark Collins paid attention at the annual CPR training for members of the Provost Marshal Office. A co-worker is glad they did.

Early Dec. 28, security guard Carl Hill collapsed while on his way to the office.

"It was the end of the shift and we (Jemison and Collins) were in the arms room," Jemison, 51, said. "Mr. Hereford said that Mr. Hill had just fallen out. The first thing that clicked in my mind was 'somebody needs help.'"

While a security guard called 911, Jemison walked outside where a crowd had formed around Hill. "He was spread eagle on the ground and I knew you are not supposed to fall back like that," Jemi-

son said. "I kneeled down to him and he had that dead stare."

Jemison checked Hill's pulse and airway breathing circulation. Hill's head was bleeding from the impact of the fall. Jemison noticed that Hill was gurgling for air. Hill was apparently choking on his tongue so Jemison pulled it out so he could breathe.

"Suddenly he gave a big gasp and then didn't come back with air, he didn't have a pulse," Jemison said. "I knew: no breathing, no pulse, start CPR."

Jemison started two cycles of blowing and pushing. All the while he was looking for the rise and fall of Hill's chest and trying to ensure his eyes weren't dilated.

"After he gave the second cycle of compressions I offered to help," Collins, 45, said. "It is easier for two men to help than one." Collins administered chest compressions while Jemison continued rescue breathing.

What seemed a long time was actually only a few minutes before the Fire Department and then ambulance arrived. Hill's life had been saved.

Hill, who has since returned to work, describes the group who works at the Provost Marshal Office as close-knit. "If it hadn't been for those guys I wouldn't be talking to you," he said. "I am ever so thankful we had the CPR training and that they paid attention. It kept me alive."

"I was just thankful to God that I remembered what I had been trained," Collins said. He said that all PMO employees are trained on CPR once a year. This was the first time that either Jemison or Collins had actually done CPR on a live person.

"The funny thing about this is you never know when you are going to have to use CPR," Collins said. "But once it happened I didn't have a second thought, I just did it."

Provost marshal Lt. Col. Brad Scofield agrees with Collins on his and Jemison's act. "It does not surprise me in the least," Scofield said. "They don't give acts of that nature a second thought. It just comes naturally."

Jemison and Collins each received the Commander's Award for Civilian Service at the Garrison commander's State of the Garrison meeting Jan. 27.

"I'm grateful for the award," Collins said. "Both my wife and mother-in-law were there, they were proud. I was just

glad I was able to do something. This is the highest award I have ever received. I'm just happy it all turned out as well as it did."

He and his wife, Veronica, who works for Space and Missile Defense Command have four sons: Jeremy, Mark Jr., Marquie and Michael.

Jemison, who recently went to Afghanistan with the Army National Guard 20th Special Forces Group, has received extensive emergency and military medical training.

"I've always liked helping people. When I see there is no help, I want to help," he said. "My mom always said I would be a medic or a policeman. I'm still one of these two things."

Jemison and his wife, Brenda, live in Brownsboro. He has five children: Charlene, Thomas Jr., Tyrone, Tyrell and Tyrese.

Servicemembers wishing to learn CPR may call SSgt. Melvin Jones, NCO-in-charge of education and training at Fox Army Health Center, at 876-7449. All others may call the Madison-Marshall County Chapter of the Red Cross at 536-0084. The Red Cross offers classes throughout the year that range from \$25 to \$35. Those interested may learn how to do CPR on adults, children, infants and even pets.



Photo by Kim Mason

ON THE SCENE— Security guard sergeant Thomas Jemison and police officer Mark Collins didn't give a second thought to saving the life of a co-worker. Both received the Commander's Award for Civilian Service.



Photo by Spec. Ryan McClymont

Lessons from Iraq

CSM Tony Bridgewater of the 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) Support Command discusses lessons learned from Operation Iraqi Freedom at the noncommissioned officer leader developmental training at Heiser Hall Jan. 30.

Vanishing heads, floating bodies all part of show

Andre Kole captivates crowd with illusions and gospel truth

By SANDY RIEBELING
Staff writer
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Illusionist Andre Kole was only minutes into his opening act when he was challenged by a young audience member, calling out from the crowd.

"You didn't open both doors," the boy said. "You have to open the other side so we can see through."

Kole complied, opening the front and back doors on the left side of the long narrow wooden box, wheeled onto stage at the start of the show. He didn't, however, open both doors on the right side of the box, so theoretically, the 6-foot-2 man he'd helped lay down in the box a moment earlier could have somehow twisted and contorted his body to fit into only the right side for that instant. It was a faux pas that didn't go unnoticed by the crowd.

Undaunted, Kole continued his performance, closing all the doors on the box, saying a few magic words and voila out comes ... a beautiful woman dressed in a shimmering red satin outfit.

It wasn't what the crowd was expecting and that's exactly what they wanted. To be surprised, amazed, stupefied, left wondering ... how does he do that?

Andre Kole didn't disappoint.

During the two-hour show at the Fitness Center Jan. 23, Kole, along with his beautiful assistant and three-man team of magicians, walked through a mirror, swallowed fire, cut off a head and made it reappear (on the same body), linked and unlinked silver Chinese rings in various patterns and designs, and put a man through the center of a large fan that appeared to be operating at the time. They also made light of the way mediums claim to reach spirits "from the other side," by demonstrating several techniques used to conjure up the movements and noises made by those who've passed.

But when they brought out the guillotine stocks and asked for a volunteer, 4-year-old Sean Sanders started to get a little nervous. He watched from his father's lap as Kole demonstrated the integrity of the blade by sacrificing a carrot before putting a volunteer's head in the stock.

The little boy's face tensed, his eyes slamming shut as the blade dropped down on a volunteer's neck.

"He didn't like the guillotine," Marine Sgt. Michael Sanders said of his son's reaction.

"I did like when he floated," Sean added. "That was good."

Kole ended the first half of his show by levitating in a seated position while one of his assistants passed a hula-hoop sized silver ring under him, over him and then passed Kole through the middle to demonstrate the absence of wire suspensions.

"He's good. More than I expected," Sanders said. Quite an accolade coming from a fellow magician. Sanders is well-known for performing magic tricks while relaxing at the NCO club. "I started performing about a year ago just for fun. I've done a lot of reading on different kinds of magic. I'm trying to find what I like best. Really what I like best is seeing the smiles on people's faces."

Just before the grand finale, Kole got down to the real business at hand, underscoring the truth that what he had been doing all evening was simple illusion. It wasn't real. The audience members were not to put their faith in the magic before their eyes. He asked them to move beyond magic and illusion and put their faith in a holy father, God.

He called this "the most controversial" part of the program and told the audience of his quest to unveil the most famous illusionist in history — Jesus. But what he found through his journey of self discovery and decades of research into the miracles of Christ is that Jesus is real.

"There's only one God," Kole said as he set up a visual demonstration for the crowd. He took a gold ball, about the size of a soccer ball and slid it onto a silver rod then placed the rod between two poles. "He is a God who loves every person in the world."

"But the fellowship was broken through our choice to go on our own. The way of sin," Kole said, taking a purple ball, about the same as the gold one and sliding it onto the rod. "The result was disastrous — killing, violence, war ... The purple ball represents evil in our lives."

"Sin separated a holy God from sinful man," Kole continued as he placed a blue ball on the rod next to the purple one, leaving the three balls side by side on the rod, suspended by poles. "Religion is what a sinful man tries to do for a holy God. It's much more important what holy God can do for sinful man. God passed the penalty of death on man. Then He stepped out of eternity through Jesus Christ."

Kole held up a wooden cross about 2 feet wide as a representation of Jesus.



Photo by Spec. Ryan McClymont

MUST BE MAGIC— Andre Kole, world famous magician, takes a break from signing autographs to perform a quick magic trick. The show took place Jan. 23 at the Redstone Fitness Center.

"God's message is not one of condemnation but one of love, forgiveness and mercy ..." as Kole said the words, he waved the cross over the purple ball and it magically connected to the bottom of the cross and was lifted off the rod, without disturbing the two balls still there.

"It's one thing to believe in God," Kole said as he laid the cross down behind him. "It's another to have a personal relationship with God." As he said these words, the gold and blue ball magically moved together.

Kole led the audience in the salvation prayer. The post chaplains, who sponsored the free program, were on hand to offer counsel and answer questions before the big finish.

Kole had one more trick up his sleeve.

The Statue of Liberty, a scaled down model weighing several hundred pounds and more than 10 feet tall, was wheeled onto the stage. Kole was going to make it disappear.

Using a curtain on a hoop that wasn't tall enough to cover the entire statue, Kole raised it, leaving the top of the statue showing.

The music began to build as Kole gave the dimensions of the statue and his history of working with David Copperfield on many projects including making the real Statue of Liberty disappear. The lights began to flash, the magic words flowed from his mouth and the bottom of the statue disappeared while the top remained. As the curtain continued to rise in a swift motion, more of the bottom disappeared until the whole statue was just ... gone.

Then so was Kole.



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

AFTER THE SHOW— Illusionist Andre Kole signs a book for Marine Sgt. Michael Sanders and his son, Sean (on dad's shoulders), after his performance at the Fitness Center.

Budget request funds readiness, transformation

Defense Department proposal amounts to \$410.7 billion

By JIM GARAMONE
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The \$410.7 billion defense budget request for fiscal 2005 fully funds current readiness while maintaining course for transforming the military, DoD officials said here Feb. 2.

Under the proposal, servicemembers would receive a 3.5 percent across-the-board pay raise. The request also would increase the basic allowance for housing to eliminate all out-of-pocket expenses for servicemembers.

The budget priority is to win the war on terror, said a senior defense official briefing on background. "We are at war," he said. Readiness accounts — operations and maintenance — must be fully funded, he said. Army tank miles are set at 899, Army flying hours at 13.1 hours per crew per month, Navy flying hours are at 19.2 hours per crew per month and Air Force hours are set at 16.8 hours per crew per month. Navy steaming days are set at 51 days per quarter.

The budget also funds immediate acquisition needs such as Humvees with enhanced armor, Stryker vehicles and unmanned aerial vehicles. The budget calls for more and better communications systems and better intelligence-sharing systems, the official said.

The budget request also asks for up to \$500 million to train military and security forces in Iraq, Afghanistan and neighboring countries.

Emergency response funds

The request also funds \$300 million for the Commanders' Emergency Response Program. This is the money available to local commanders for humanitarian and reconstruction needs in Iraq and Afghanistan. The official called it the most successful program of its type.

The budget request also moves toward managing the demands on the military. "Notice I didn't say alleviating the stress on the force," the official said. He said the U.S. military is large enough to handle the rotation into and out of Afghanistan and Iraq. "With numbers like that, we don't have a stress problem, we have a management problem."

The budget would expand military capabilities, begin the process of rebalancing the active and reserve components, give DoD the flexibility to retain high-demand skills and continue the conversion of many military slots to civilian workers.

The budget is complicated by the base realignment and closure process that

begins in fiscal 2005, and also by the department's global posture review, the official said. The first steps in this process begin this year, but the DoD recommendations, the commission's conclusions and congressional actions will take place in 2005.

Army programs

Under the fiscal 2005 budget proposal, the Army would receive \$97.2 billion; the Navy and Marines Corps, \$119.3 billion; the Air Force would receive \$120.5 billion; and defense agencies \$64.7 billion.

It would fund operations and maintenance at \$140.6 billion, military personnel accounts at \$104.8 billion, procurement at \$74.9 billion and research-and-development accounts at \$68.9 billion.

Overall, Air Force aircraft procurement is budgeted for \$13.2 billion in fiscal 2005; the Navy, \$8.7 billion; and the Army, \$1.8 billion. The money will pay for 16 Black Hawk helicopters, 42 F/A-18E/F Hornets, 11 V-22 tilt-rotor Ospreys, nine UH-1Y helicopters, two E-2C Hawkeye aircraft, eight T-45 Goshawk trainers, 15 C-130J airlifters, 24 F-22 Raptor stealth aircraft and 14 C-17 airlifters.

The Army will receive \$1.2 billion for the RAH-66 Comanche helicopter system. The Joint Strike Fighter is budgeted at \$4.5 billion in fiscal 2005.

Unmanned aerial vehicles

Unmanned aerial vehicles continue to receive a great deal of budgetary attention. The Air Force plans to buy four Global Hawk aircraft at \$359.7 million. In addition, the service will put \$336.2 million into continued Global Hawk research.

The Air Force would buy nine Predator UAV systems for \$146.5 million, and the Army would procure four Shadow UAV systems for \$42 million.

The unmanned combat aerial vehicle — a joint program with the Air Force, Navy and Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency — will receive \$710.4 million in research and development monies. Overall unmanned vehicle research will receive almost \$2 billion under the proposal.

Experiences in Afghanistan and Iraq pointed to the need for a small-diameter bomb. The 2005 budget proposal procures 158 of the weapons at \$29.3 million. Research and development funds are pegged at \$86.5 million.

In shipbuilding, the carrier replacement program comes in at almost \$1 billion in advance procurement and research and development. Construction of the Navy's transformational CVN-21 carrier is set to begin in fiscal 2007. Research and development for the DDX destroyer program is set at \$1.4 billion; construction on

the first DDX is set for 2005.

The Navy wants \$3.4 billion for three DDG-51 Arleigh Burke-class destroyers. The service also budgeted \$352.1 million for one littoral combat ship and for research and development. The budget calls for one LPD-17 San Antonio-class amphibious transport dock at a price tag of \$1 billion. The ship is used to transport Marines, their equipment and their aircraft. The Navy expects these ships to remain in service through 2050. Finally, the 2005 budget calls for one Virginia-class attack submarine at \$2.6 billion.

Future combat systems

Army procurement is dominated by the Future Combat Systems. The service has budgeted \$3.2 billion in research and development funds for the system. The system is an amalgam of manned and unmanned ground and air combat systems that represent the way the Army will fight future wars.

The service is budgeting close to \$1 billion for the Stryker family of armored vehicles. The eight-wheeled vehicle is the heart of the new Stryker brigades. The vehicle will be produced in a number of variants including reconnaissance, guided missile, medical evacuation, mortars, engineers, command and fire support. Ultimately, the service plans to field five Stryker brigades. One already is operating in Iraq.

However, the service is not ignoring the systems that "brung" them to the dance," said one official. The service is

upgrading the M-1A2 Abrams tank to the tune of \$308.3 million. The upgrade will improve the main battle tank's armor, a 120 mm main gun, a commander's independent thermal viewer, digitized communications and better nuclear, biological and chemical protection.

The Army will also spend \$71.4 million on improvements to the Bradley fighting vehicle. Experiences in Iraq pointed to the need for more heavily armored Humvees. The Army plans to buy 818 of the fortified high-mobility vehicles for \$163 million and 1,613 regular Humvees for \$140 million.

Ballistic missile defense comes in at \$9.2 billion, with an initial operating capability set by the end of 2004. By the end of fiscal 2005, defense officials said, the system should have 20 ground-based interceptors and up to 10 sea-based interceptors.

Military construction is down slightly from years past. The total for fiscal 2005 is \$9.7 billion. It was just over \$10 billion for fiscal 2004.

The construction budget continues to fund the family housing privatization program. Under this, private contractors build government housing using their own money. DoD officials estimate that for every dollar the government puts into the program, it gets \$8 in actual construction. After a slow start, the program is expected to fix the department's backlog of substandard housing by fiscal 2007, officials said.

Irbil attacks about fanaticism, Wolfowitz says

Deputy defense secretary reacts to suicide bombings

By JIM GARAMONE

American Forces Press Service

BAGHDAD, Iraq — The two suicide bombings in Irbil that news reports say killed 56 people and wounded 235, speak “volumes about what these extremists are all about,” said Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz here Feb. 1.

Wolfowitz is visiting Iraq to see how the rotation of forces is going. He said that suicide bombers attacked the headquarters of two Kurdish political parties. The terrorists attacked precisely at a time when people were gathered to celebrate one of the holiest days in the Muslim calendar — the Eid al Adha.

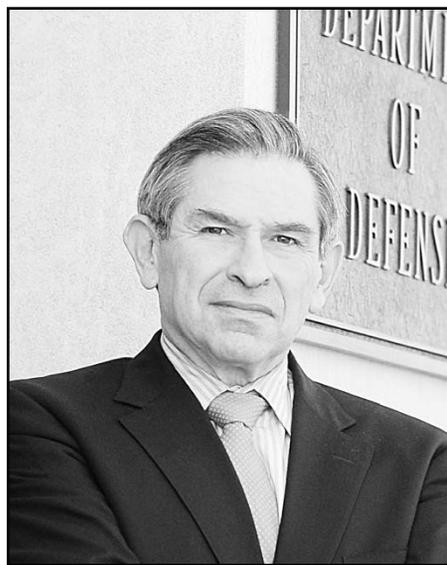
The deputy secretary made his comments while touring an Iraqi police station.

“(The extremists) are not about Islam, they’re not about Muslims,” Wolfowitz said. “They are about their own fanatical view of the world, and they will kill to try to advance it. But we are winning and they are losing.”

Wolfowitz spent the day touring facilities and meeting with civilian and military leaders. He observed that he is encouraged by the first reports on how the handover is taking place among the military. He said the coalition is having a lot of intelligence successes, “some of it attributable to the

documents that were found with Saddam Hussein, but I think more generally to a much greater degree of cooperation from Iraqis in the greater confidence they are having about their future.”

He said that his visit to the Iraqi police station was in many ways “one of the most impressive visits.” He said the motivation that Iraqi police leaders show is encouraging. The Iraqi police are working to become more professional. Roughly 2,000 police per month will be graduating from police academies, and there is an on-



File photo

Paul Wolfowitz

the-job training program under way to further their training when they reach the streets. Coalition police officials are working with the Iraqis to make sure the training goes well.

And being a policeman in Iraq is dangerous. “We had a reminder of that up in Mosul yesterday, where a suicide bomber attacked a police station,” Wolfowitz said. “It’s what these criminals do.”

“They are going to target success wherever they find it,” he continued, “and they are going to try to intimidate Iraqis to go back into hiding.”

The deputy secretary also met with a group of Iraqi women. “I must say on the whole it is encouraging to see the spirit of vigorous debate along lines that weren’t

entirely predictable,” he said. “It reinforces my strong belief that the United States has a big stake in making sure that Iraqi women have equal rights in the society and play an equal role in shaping its future. Their voice is a voice of moderation and a voice of democracy.”

Wolfowitz said that in a quick tour he has been impressed by the progress being made especially in security. “There is still a lot of work to be done,” he said. “We had very encouraging reports on the role of the Iraqi Civil Defense Corps. And one of the things that I’m determined to do is to make sure that we are able to move the supplemental funding as quickly as possible into the equipping of the police force and the defense corps.”

A soldier’s observation: ‘You can’t give away freedom’

By JIM GARAMONE

American Forces Press Service

BAGHDAD, Iraq — A 1st Armored Division soldier put the whole situation in Iraq in context. “We all got it that freedom isn’t free, but you also can’t give it away.”

Brig. Gen. Martin Dempsey said a soldier told him that just as the soldier was leaving the country. “I think that’s where we are now. We’ve given them the opportunity; they have to take it,” he said during an interview at the Coalition Provisional Authority headquarters with reporters traveling with Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz.

Others agree with the assessment. Another coalition military official said the fight in Iraq is one between the large majority of moderates and the small minority of extremists. The Iraqi extremists are those who want the old regime — or something like it — back in power. They want a small minority of people to live off the fat of the land while oppressing the large majority of the population. “It is our job to give the moderates ... the opportunity to form a government they want,” he said.

There is an educational process involved with this. Coalition officials are working with Iraqis to help them understand their new freedoms and that these newfound freedoms are to take advantage of the situation.

The arrest of Saddam Hussein has had

a favorable impact on helping the Iraqi people with their decision on freedom. The arrest was an intelligence bonanza, said a senior coalition official in Baghdad. Documents found with Saddam have provided information about the organization and financing of the insurgency, he said. But possibly the greater impact is psychological on a number of groups of people, the official said.

There is always going to be a hardcore group that will fight against the coalition, he explained. In Baghdad alone, officials put that number at 250 to 300 former regime hardliners. “That group can only be captured or killed,” the official said.

But there are other groups that the capture has affected. One group supported Saddam’s rule, and while he was free they cooperated with the hardcore group hoping he would return. “That hope is gone. And we have seen since the arrest people turning themselves in ... to tactical units, basically saying they’ve had enough,” the official said.

There was another larger group that was afraid Saddam would return. “They were sitting on the fence, afraid he would come back, and they now know that isn’t going to happen,” he said. “We’ve seen a substantial uptick in the amount of human intelligence coming in as a result (of that realization).”

All in all, coalition officials in Baghdad said the trend lines are up. What remains to be seen is how the Iraqi people adapt to freedom after 35 years of fear.

Military retirees to see pay increase

DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE

ARLINGTON, Va. — An estimated 150,000 military retirees should have seen an increase in their pay Feb. 2.

The National Defense Authorization Act, enacted in November 2003, significantly modified a long-standing law preventing retirees from receiving full-retired pay if they also received disability pay from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The new law allows concurrent receipt of military retired pay and VA disability pay for retirees with more than 20 years of service and a disability rating of 50 percent or greater. This restored pay will be phased in over a 10-year period that began Jan. 1.

Retirees were not required to take any action to receive the additional pay. The Defense Finance and Accounting Service identified eligible retirees and began making adjustments to their military retired pay.

The first payments were due the first business day of February for the law change that was effective Jan. 1. The additional funds were paid on Feb. 2

based on entitlement for Jan. 1-31. The restored pay is paid on the same schedule as current military retired pay. Recurring payments will be made on the first business day of each month based on entitlement for the prior month.

For the majority of military retirees, the additional money is taxable income and subject to federal tax withholding.

One category of military retirees that is eligible for additional funds but was not paid Feb. 2 are those who receive retired pay based on a disability percentage instead of years of service. Further guidance is needed from the Department of Defense to determine how the law will be applied in these cases. Once guidance is received, payments will be made retroactive to Jan. 1.

An estimated 2,800 military retirees fall into this category.

For more information regarding who is eligible for the restored pay and how payments will be made, visit www.dfas.mil and see the topics under "Retired and Annuitant Pay," or visit the "myPay" web site at <https://mypay.dfas.mil>.

■ Chief of staff pushes for transforming force

Strength

continued from page 1

But, he said, the Army must make "significant moves" to change the way it does business. He said he has permission from Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld "to grow the Army by 30,000 people." He said this will give the service the personnel needed to handle the stress ongoing operations are placing on it.

"We're making very serious moves to modularize the Army, standardize the Army, developing an Army that's more lethal, more agile, more capable of meeting the current and future operating environment task," Schoomaker said.

The general emphasized that this is an evolutionary process. He said a permanent end-strength increase will drive the service back into the late-Vietnam era Army.

"In the early '70s, we had an Army with a lot of people that was hollow," Schoomaker said. "It couldn't train, couldn't move, couldn't fly, couldn't do the kind of things the Army was required to do."

Schoomaker, who came out of retirement to take the chief of staff job, said it costs about \$1.2 billion a year for every 10,000 people added to the Army. Congress often gives the military an unfounded order — meaning that the service must take the money from other areas to fund the requirement.

Schoomaker said Army planners believe the service can get 10,000 spaces from military to civilian conversions. He said he believes stabilizing the force — giving soldiers longer tours — will increase retention. And, he said he believes there are significant efficiencies as the service examines the global footprint and restructures overseas overhead and headquarters.

He said if the Army is allowed to pursue the course now charted, the country will get "a better Army more capable of doing what it needs to do, within our current level of resourcing."

Schoomaker detailed some restructuring elements for the representatives. He said there are currently 10 active duty

divisions. The service will retain the 10 division headquarters as battle command headquarters but move some enabling resources — such as air defense, signal and intelligence — to the brigade level. The Army would increase the number of brigades under those divisions. "Tentatively we think we can go from three brigades under a division to four," he said. That alone would take the service from 30 brigades under the division structure to 40.

The service has already decided to go forward with five Stryker brigades in the active structure. The service also has two airborne brigades and an armored cavalry regiment. "That moves us from 33 active brigades under 10 division headquarters to a force of 48 active brigades — more lethal, more capable, more agile, more modular — that will allow us to be much more strategically agile than we are today," he said.

The chief also wants to standardize the divisions. "Today we have six heavy divisions in the active force — all of them are different," he said. "Today we have two light divisions in the active force — each different. Then we have the 82nd Airborne Division and the 101st and, of course, they are different. This we need to fix."

On the reserve side, the Army has eight division headquarters, which the service plans to retain. "But we want to go from 15 enhanced brigades today to 22," he said. He wants to increase these reserve brigades' levels of readiness and equip them with the very best equipment available. This would increase those brigades' capability to become part of a broader rotation base to meet the future strategy, he said.

Overall, there are more than 100,000 structural changes to be made to the Army. "We're going to convert 36 field artillery battalions to 149 MP units, increase the number of transportation units, medical, aviation restructuring," he said. "This is the biggest internal restructuring we've done in 50 years, but it must be done to make us relevant and to allow us to meet the real threat to the United States."

Experienced MEDDAC makes its move

Howard, Bush lead win over Marines

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

MEDDAC faced two tough tests last week in troop basketball action.

And the medics passed both impressively.

First, they beat second-ranked Charlie Company 58-39 on Jan. 26 and then they topped the fourth-ranked Marines 67-47 on Jan. 27 at Pagano Gym.

That's enough to move MEDDAC from No. 3 up to No. 2 in the *Redstone Rocket* rankings, right behind top-ranked NCO Academy.

LeRoy Howard scored 26 points and Detrick Bush had 24 to lead the medics past the Marines. MEDDAC, which led 33-24 at halftime, improved to 5-1 while the Marines fell to 3-3.

Howard started at small forward in

place of Thomas Oates who has left Redstone for Egypt.

"He stepped up big," Bush, a shooting guard, said. "They left him open because he usually doesn't score and he was just killing them."

"Basically I was just filling in where they needed me, hitting outside shots, driving to the hole, rebounding, just getting put-backs."

MEDDAC is a cohesive team, according to coach/guard Michael Copeland. "We don't get down on anyone. We keep everybody on the team up if they're having a bad game," he said.

It's also an experienced team which relies on court savvy against the younger student companies.

"We're doing pretty good so far," point guard Ray Lee said. "We have a lot to work on. Our defense needs a little work. We've got a veteran team and we know how to work the floor. We know how to win, basically."

Juventino Camarillo had 16 points and Rashaun Newton added 12 for the



Photo by Skip Vaughn

BOARDS BATTLE— From left Bravo's Geonney Fauveir battles MEDDAC's Detrick Bush and Ray Lee for a potential rebound during MEDDAC's 67-39 win Jan. 13.

Marines.

The *Rocket's* latest rankings have the NCO Academy at No. 1, MEDDAC at No. 2, Charlie at No. 3, HHC 59th at No. 4 and Marines at No. 5.

The actual standings were: Eastern Conference — NCO Academy (5-1), Delta (4-3), Bravo (2-5), 2117th (2-5) and Headquarters & Alpha (0-7). Western Conference — MEDDAC (5-1), Charlie (5-1), HHC 59th (4-3), Marines (3-3) and AMCOM (3-4).

Last week's results included:

- Jan. 26 — AMCOM d. Marines 53-49, MEDDAC d. Charlie 58-39 and NCO

Academy d. HHC 59th 49-34.

- Jan. 27 — Bravo d. Headquarters & Alpha 64-38, MEDDAC d. Marines 67-47 and Charlie d. Delta 62-60.

- Jan. 28 — AMCOM won by forfeit over NCO Academy, HHC 59th won by forfeit over Headquarters & Alpha and Bravo d. 2117th 30-19.

- Jan. 29 — Delta d. Bravo 55-51, HHC 59th d. 2117th 70-55 and AMCOM won by forfeit over Headquarters & Alpha.



Courtesy photo

The big one

Retired SSgt. Walter Tyler, 79, describes the buck as the "biggest rack I've ever gotten in all my years of hunting." He was more than 30 feet up in a tree stand when he saw the buck and killed it with one shot.

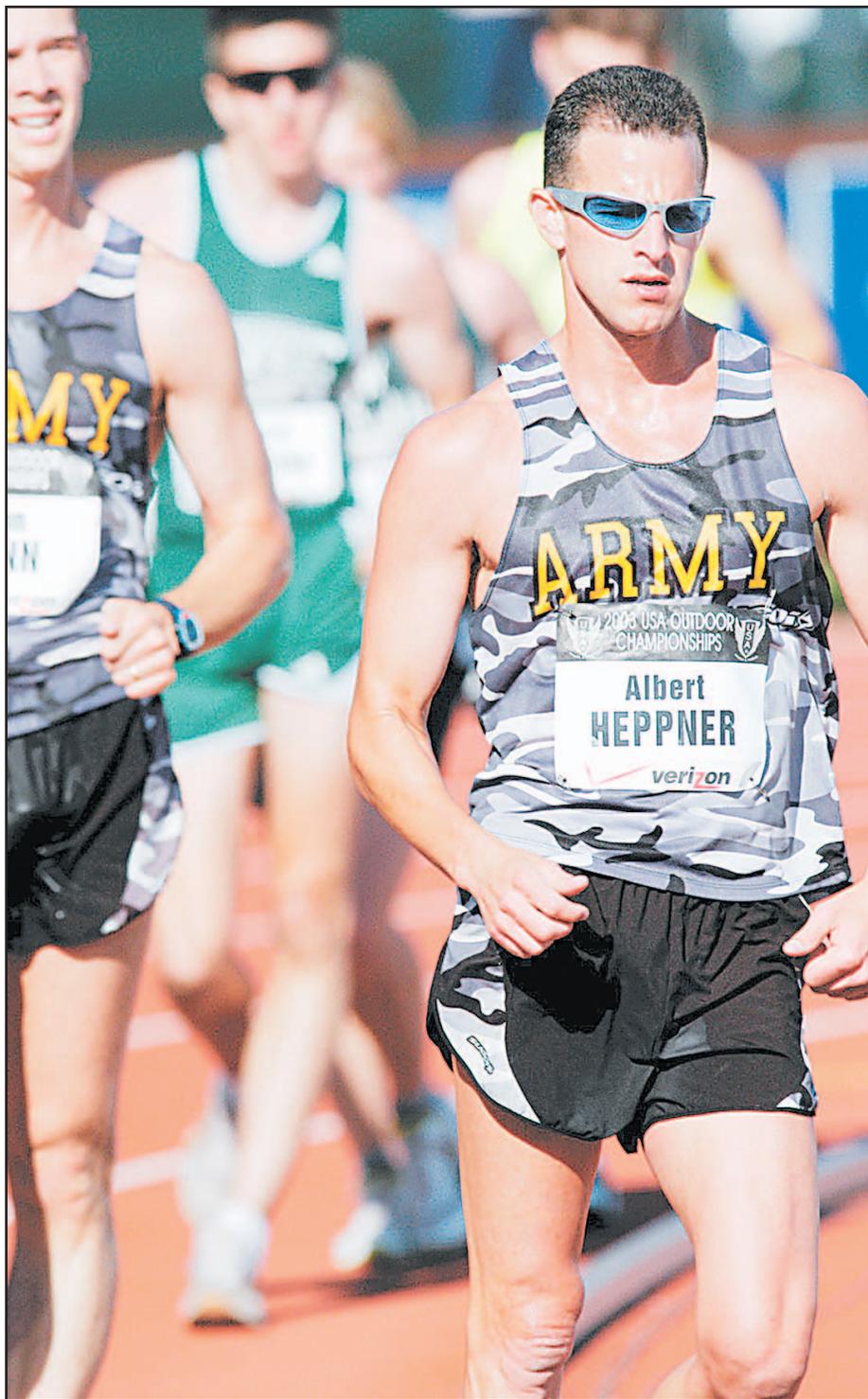


Photo by Tim Hipps

World class walker

Race walker Spec. Al Heppner, here competing in the 2003 USA Outdoor Track & Field Championships ahead of Army World Class Athlete Program teammate Sgt. John Nunn, has qualified for the 2004 USA Indoor Track & Field Championships at Boston.

 Sports & Recreation

Boating safety
Redstone Flotilla 2406 of the Coast Guard Auxiliary will conduct boating safety classes Thursday nights beginning Feb. 12 at Stillwell Hall, building 3305 on Zeus Drive. Classes are 6:30-8:30 from Feb. 12 to March 25, April 8 to May 20, June 10 to July 22, Aug. 12 to Sept. 23 and Oct. 14 to Nov. 24. A \$22 fee covers the cost of the class text and binder. For more information and to register, call Tom Kunhart 885-7096 (work) or 830-6621 (home).

Duathlon competition
The 3D Duathlon – a 5K run, 25K bike, 5K run – is 9 a.m. March 13 at Hampton Cove. It's sponsored by 3D Research Corporation to benefit the Huntsville Hospital Foundation. For more information, call 464-9494.

 Conferences & Meetings

Communicators club
Learn the art of speaking, listening and thinking through the Communications Club which meets every Thursday at 11:30 a.m. at Sparkman building 5300, room 5140 on the first floor. For information call Dan Cutshall 876-4547 or Ron Legowik 876-5619.

Contracting conference
Defense Acquisition University, South

Region, will have its second annual Conference and Expo Feb. 18-19 at the Huntsville Marriott. "Contracting: Smart Business for Mission Support" is this year's theme. The registration fee is \$60 for attendees and exhibitors. Register for the conference online at www.mssi-online.com by Feb. 9. Continuous Learning Points will be awarded to attendees.

Alcorn State alums
The Tennessee Valley Alumni Chapter of Alcorn State University will meet Feb. 10 at 6:30 p.m. at the Richard Showers Center, Blue Spring Road. All alumni and friends are welcome. For more information, call 876-1731.

Bama State alums
The Rocket City Alumni Chapter of Alabama State University will hold an Alumni Mixer, Saturday from 6-10 p.m. at Edgewater Clubhouse, 111 Edgewater Drive in Madison. All ASU alums are encouraged to attend and bring a guest. For more information, call (256) 683-5648.

Employee union
AFGE Local 1858 will hold its monthly meeting Feb. 9 at 5 p.m. at the conference room of building 3202 on Mauler Road. For the agenda, visit the following web site: afge1858.org.

Army education series
The Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the United States Army

will hold the first of its new biannual Education Series meetings Feb. 19. Retired Lt. Gen. Theodore Stroup will provide an analysis of the fiscal '05 Army budget, and he will make two identical presentations to the membership of the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter at the Lockheed-Martin Auditorium at 4800 Bradford Drive. The first presentation is from 9-11 a.m., and the second is 1-3 p.m. Attendance is free to chapter members. Non-members may attend by joining AUSA for \$33 for a one-year membership. Attendance at both presentations is on a space-available basis, so reservations should be made early. For reservations and AUSA membership, call Martha Townsend of Raytheon Company 542-5100.

 Miscellaneous

Merit awards
The Officer and Civilian Women's Club each year presents Merit Awards to qualified applicants based on their scholastic achievements, citizenship and sincere desire to pursue higher education. These awards are designed to help offset the cost of tuition, books and related fees. All applicants must meet the following criteria: be a member, spouse of a member, or the dependent of an OCWC member in good standing as of Oct. 1, 2003 and live within a 50-mile radius of Huntsville. Candidates may compete in one of four categories: high school senior, undergraduate, graduate and member/spouse. Previous award winners may compete in succeeding years, but may win only once in each category. Additionally, students receiving full scholarships are not eligible to apply for a Merit Award. The deadline for Merit Award consideration is Feb. 11. For more information call Michelle Archer, the Merit Award chairperson, 534-5783.

Reserve unit
A local Army Reserve detachment doing weekend drills on Redstone Arsenal is looking for prior active duty soldiers who want to return to duty, or soldiers who wish to transfer from other Reserve/National Guard units with a specialty of 74B information systems operators, and 75B/H unit administration. For 74B, the unit will consider reclassification/waiver action to 74B if you can document with resume your Civilian Acquired Skills to include your education/experience in the following computer skills: data base management, PC programming languages, networking/systems administration and telecommunications skills. Minimum of a secret clearance is required. And you must possess the character and personal qualifications to pass a SBI Investigation check to obtain a top secret clearance required by the specialty. Specialties 74C and 74F are now authorized to convert to 74B as well. For MOS 75B/H, you must be MOS-Q prior service or transfer from another unit. For information call Charles Vartan 876-0604 (work) or 883-8891 (home).

Civilian deployment
Civilian employees are needed to support Aviation and Missile Command missions overseas. Deployment opportunities exist

in Southwest Asia in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Skill sets needed include acquisition, maintenance, supply, quality assurance, engineers, operations officers, logistics and automation, among others. Volunteers must be currently employed by AMCOM. Contractors cannot be considered to fill these positions. Civilians interested in deploying should notify their supervisor and call Jane Wyatt 876-4106 or Maj. Felicia Carter 313-3867. Contractors and other interested people can access www.cpol.army.mil for openings and opportunities for overseas employment.

Business scholarships
The Redstone Arsenal Chapter, International Association of Administrative Professionals will present two \$1,000 annual scholarship awards to a local high school and college student majoring in a business field. Merit awards may apply toward tuition, books and fees for undergraduate or graduate level studies. Deadline for applications is March 31. For more information, call Jackie Kenner 876-8131.

Closings or delays
If inclement weather causes Redstone Arsenal to close or delay its opening, tune in to any of the following stations for the most current information: radio – WAHR, 99.1FM; WDRM, 102FM; WEKR, 1240AM; WEUP, 1600 AM; WGSV, 1270AM; WJAB, 90.9FM; WLRH, 89.3FM; WRAB, 1380AM; WRSA, 97FM; WTKI, 1450AM; WVNN, 770AM; WWIC, 1050AM; WZYP, 104.3FM; television — WAAY (Channel 31); WAFF (Channel 48); WHNT (Channel 19). Three additional methods have been implemented to provide current information about delays or closures. You can call 955-8445 to hear a recorded announcement or you can click the button for weather information on either the Team Redstone Internet site (www.redstone.army.mil) or the AMCOM Portal Intranet site (https://intranet3.redstone.army.mil:7443/pls/aprtl/aprtl_amcom_site.amcom_page).

Aerospace scholarship
The Air Force Association, Tennessee Valley Chapter, will present a \$1,000 scholarship to an Air Force Junior ROTC cadet, cadet in the Civil Air Patrol, dependent of active duty or retired Air Force personnel, dependent of Air National Guard or Air Force Reserve personnel, or dependent of an active duty member of another service (Army, Navy, or Marine Corps). Applicants must pursue a full course load toward an aerospace technology associate degree at Calhoun Community College. This scholarship will be for the 2004-05 school year and will be broken into \$500 awards to the school for each semester attended. Candidates may apply until May 1. For more information, call Terry Roop (256) 230-0396 after 6 p.m. or e-mail at TLRooop@charter.net.

Thrift shop
The Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping Tuesdays from 9-5, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9-4. Walk-in consignment

hours are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 9-12:30. Appointments are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 12:30-3. Donations are accepted and tax slips are available. "Join us for our next Saturday sale, Feb. 7 from 10-2," a prepared release said. The shop is a collection site for New Futures, so bring your cell phones that are in working order (Audiovox, Ericsson, Kyocera 3035, Motorola and Nokia). The shop can recycle inkjet, fax, printer, copier, and laser jet cartridges. For more information, call 881-6992.

Office manager job

The Thrift Shop is looking for an office manager for Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays — three hours per day. Pay is \$7.50 per hour. Good computer skills and reliable transportation a must. Applications can be picked up during business hours; and the deadline is Thursday. For more information, call Isabel 881-6992.

Resource manager scholarships

The American Society of Military Comptrollers announces its annual scholarship program for ASMC members and their immediate families. The national scholarship is open only to high school seniors, but the local scholarship is also open to undergraduates and those working on graduate programs. The application can be found at <http://www.asmconline.org>. Deadline is March 1; and applications may be mailed to Jan Howard, PEO, Air, Space and Missile Defense, Attn: SFAE-AMD-BD-SF, P.O. Box 1500, Huntsville, AL 35807-3801. Applications may also be faxed to 313-3446 or e-mailed to Jan.Howard@amd.army.mil. For more information, call Howard 313-3447.

Combined fund organization

The Local Federal Coordinating Committee for the Tennessee Valley Combined Federal Campaign is accepting applications for a Principle Combined Fund Organization to administer the 2004 campaign. The primary responsibility of the PCFO is to support the federal government in managing a comprehensive local workplace fund-raising campaign while ensuring the fiscal integrity, accountability and transparency of the process in accordance with regulations. A primary goal of the PCFO is to conduct an effective and efficient campaign in a fair and even-handed manner. Only federations, charitable organizations, or a combination thereof are eligible to apply. More information may be downloaded from the Office of Personnel Management web site at www.opm.gov/cfc. All applications must be mailed to CFC chairperson, AMSAM-CFC, building 3708, Redstone Arsenal, AL 35898-5795 by Feb. 16.

Engineers week banquet

The annual National Engineers Week award banquet is Feb. 26 at the Von Braun Center North Hall. Cocktails and registration begin at 6 p.m., and dinner at 7. Tickets are \$25 with advanced reservations or \$38 after Feb. 18. For more information, call the Huntsville Association of Technical Societies 882-1227.

Valentines play

The Madison Theatre Guild will present "Love Letters" by A.R. Gurney at 7 p.m. Feb. 13-14 and 1:30 p.m. Feb. 15 at Clay

House Museum, 16 Main St. in downtown Madison. "Join us for Valentines with a romantic candlelight dinner and play," a prepared release said. Cost is \$50 each. For tickets call the Madison Theatre Guild 772-1963 or Clay House 325-1018.

Excellence seminar

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter, International Association of Administrative Professionals will hold its ninth annual Pathways to Professional Excellence seminar Feb. 10 all day at the Huntsville Hilton. Dr. Amanda Goodson is scheduled keynote speaker. Steinmart will be doing the luncheon fashion show again, and the afternoon holds a host of workshop speakers, including Jim Flinn, deputy to the commanding general. Both government and industry admin professionals are invited to this seminar. Call June Pockrus 842-9888 or e-mail june.pockrus@redstone.army.mil for a registration package and submit it to Rob Archer, chapter treasurer. Contact information is in the registration package. The seminar is in TIPS.

Identification cards

The ID Card Section is no longer using the appointment system and now issues all cards on a first come, first serve basis. Operating hours are Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. for retiree and dependent ID cards. Common Access Card operations are from 7:30-3. ALL CAC operations must be started before 3. The ID Card Sections will be closed on all national holidays and on most training holidays. Call 842-2413/2415/2416 to confirm hours on training holidays. Contractors must bring a new DD Form 1172-2 (October 2002) to replace their CAC at anytime. The 1172-2 must have all three signatures and the end date of the contract. All new hires must have a 1172-2 to obtain their CAC. Your 1172-2 must be signed by your human resources specialist from CPAC. It must have the date of hire; and if you are "emergency essential/contingency operations," that must written in the remarks block.

Parent education

Child and Youth Services will have a parent education class on "Emotional Intelligence," Feb. 10 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Redstone Room of the Challenger Community Activity Center, building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road. The instructor is Brenda Knox, a Learning Center trainer. For information or to register for this free class, call 313-3609.

AER scholarships

Army Emergency Relief is accepting scholarship applications for dependent children of active duty and retired soldiers for the 2004-05 school year. Scholarship applications can be found at the AER web site www.aerhq.org. For more information, call Kristi Foster of Army Community Service 876-5397.

Tax assistance center

The Redstone Arsenal Tax Assistance Center is open until April 15 in building 3489 at the corner of Ajax Road and Zeus Road. It provides free tax preparation and electronic filing services to active duty and retired military and their dependents. The center is open Monday through Fri-

day from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. by appointment only, and Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5-7 for walk-in services. For an appointment, call 842-1040.

Computer classes

Self-Paced Computer classes are offered Monday through Friday at Army Community Service, building 3338 on Redeye Road. The free classes are available for Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, Access, Publisher, and Windows 98. With digital video, you get the advantage of interactivity and the flavor of a live presentation from nationally recognized experts. To register call 876-0446.

Art auction

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club will present its 32nd annual Art Exhibition and Auction, Feb. 28 at the Officers and Civilians Club. The exhibition starts at 5:30 p.m. and the auction at 7. Tickets are \$10; and proceeds benefit the OCWC welfare fund. Tickets can be purchased at the club (830-2582) or through an OCWC representative. For more information, call Natalie Taylor or Kathleen Riester 876-5397.

Welfare requests

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club distributes money each year to a variety of requesting organizations. OCWC Welfare Request Forms will be available in the group's newsletter "Southern Exposure," at Army Community Service, by mail — RSAOCWC, Attention: Welfare Chairman, P.O. Box 8113, Redstone Arsenal, AL 35808 — or via Internet from mtbissell@firstcommand.com. The request deadline is Feb. 27. For more information call Mary Bissell 837-3310, extension 109.

Singing valentines

A barbershop quartet will deliver your singing Valentine gift Feb. 13 or Feb. 14. For more information, call 534-9522 or 881-3762.

Story time for preschoolers

The MWR Post Library has "Story time for Preschoolers" every Wednesday from 10-10:30 a.m. The library, in building 3323 on Redeye Road, is open to the entire Redstone community. This is an opportunity for young children to become familiar with their library and be exposed to their own "book place" in a child-friendly environment. The parent or caregiver must accompany the child and must be registered to check out books and materials. There are books, audio books and DVDs available. For more information, call librarian Gail Alden 876-4741.

Black history contests

Team Redstone is having an essay writing contest and a unit/department static display contest for Black History Month in February. The essay should be double-spaced, two pages or less and pertain to this year's theme, "Brown vs. Board of Education." E-mail or fax entries by close of business Feb. 10 to the following: richard.weber@redstone.army.mil (fax 842-6853); phone number is 876-9224. Plaques will be awarded for the top three essays. There will also be a static display contest for unit/departments competition. Static displays should be in place by Thursday and the judging is scheduled

Feb. 11. All units/departments participating in the static display contest should call SFC Weber of OMEMS 842-9765 or SFC Vasquez of AMCOM 876-8648 to enter. Awards will be presented for the top three displays at the African-American Festival, Feb. 19 from 9:30-11:30 a.m. at Bob Jones Auditorium.

Surplus sales

Marshall Space Flight Center's surplus property can be purchased through the General Services Administration sales web site. To bid on this property, go to www.gsaauctions.gov. For more information, call 544-4667.

Multicultural choir

The Redstone Multicultural Choir is reactivating and could use your vocal talents. If you would like to participate, call Carol Howard 876-3139.

Aviation electronics courses

Aviation & Electronic Schools of America has several classes starting in February in Huntsville. For more information call Don Bradley 800-345-2742, ext. 228 or visit the web site: www.aesa.com.

Blood drives

Blood drives for February include: today — from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at building 4847. Thursday — from 7 to 12:30 at building 5400. Friday — from 7 to 12:30 at building 5400, from 7-noon at building 5681 and from 9 to 2:30 at the Post Exchange. Feb. 12 — from 7 to 12:30 at the Sparkman Center, from 8 to 12:30 at SMDC and from 7 to 12:30 at Ground-Based Midcourse Defense (5000 Bradford Drive). Feb. 13 — from 7 to 12:30 at the Sparkman Center and 7-noon at Corps of Engineers. Feb. 19 — from 8-noon at building 6263. Feb. 20 — from 8 to 12:30 at SMDC and 8 to 1:30 at NASA building 4316.

Master's degrees

Nova Southeastern University will hold an information meeting on its weekend master's of business administration program Feb. 19 at 6 p.m. at Calhoun Community College, conference room 101-E, 102 Wynn Drive. For more information call 800-672-7223, ext. 5046 or Bruce Pieper (256) 227-7899.

Latin dance

Alabama Hispanic Association will hold its first Latin dance event of 2004, "Chillin' With Salsa," Saturday at 8 p.m. at the Senior Center Auditorium, 2200 Drake Ave. Admission is \$8 per person in advance, \$10 per person at the door. Advance tickets are available until Friday at La Michoacana Grocery Store, 2007 University Drive. Tickets are also available through members of AHA. For more information, call president Margaret Rotger (256) 325-8464 or 325-4242.

Waiting spouses

The next Waiting Spouses "Talk Time" is Feb. 10 at 6 p.m. at Army Community Service, building 3338 Redeye Road. If your spouse is active duty and away on an unaccompanied tour, attending training, etc., they'd love to have you join them. Call Kristi Foster 876-5397 for more information.

