

# Redstone Rocket

VOL. 53 No. 14

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April 7, 2004

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# 1994-2004 Sparkman Center marks decade



See stories on pages 4 and 5

Courtesy photo

Letters to the Editor

Help prevent child abuse

This community is committed to putting an end to child abuse. It is for that reason that the Army designates April as Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Everyone shares responsibility for keeping our children safe from child abuse and neglect. Parents have personal accountability for their children's protection. Command and all community members share with parents the duty to create a supportive and secure environment for children.

Prevention takes action. Prevent Child Abuse America has defined five ways to make prevention work, and I call on everyone to:

- Reach out to families and children. Volunteer for children's programs in the community.
- Raise the issue. Don't allow the

issue of child abuse to be swept under the rug.

- Remember the risk factors: isolation, stress, substance abuse, anger and indifference put our children in danger.
- Recognize the warning signs for child abuse and neglect. Your Army Family Advocacy Program staff can help.
- Report suspected abuse and neglect on this installation by calling the military police desk at 876-2222 or in an emergency, 911.

Children who grow up in a safe and secure community become the leaders of the future. The entire Army community is responsible for making that future possible.

**Brig. Gen. Jim Pillsbury**  
 commander, AMCOM  
 and Redstone

Looking for parking space

What is the purpose of the new barriers in the parking lots of the Sparkman Center? Could it be that they are meant to keep me from getting to a parking spot? I find it very difficult to believe that a traffic flow engineer was consulted prior to the installation of the new barriers being erected. What was once a parking lot easy to maneuver in has now become a maze.

I finally found an open spot today but was on the wrong row. By the time I worked my way around the barriers, I was halfway around the Sparkman Center. Upon returning to the open spot – it was gone. I've heard the barriers are to "stop terrorists." If the government thinks this will stop terrorists, they are very wrong. They have only made it more difficult for government employees to park and get into the building to work. I consider this a waste of my tax dollars and feel the employees would be better served with more security prior to arriv-

ing at the Sparkman Center parking lot.

Name withheld by request

*Editor's note: The Garrison provided the following response. "At the Sparkman complex, DoD and Army force protection measures are being applied, in order to ensure those working in and around the facilities are protected in accordance with current guidelines. Although many people coming and going to the Sparkman complex may feel there is very little sense to be made of the measures taken, the current layout will not only provide the protective measures necessary, but this layout provides more parking spaces and better access to the facilities than currently exist. It's true that the persons entering the parking area may have to travel further in order to find parking, but having added parking closer to the facilities will provide better convenience to those working and visiting the Sparkman complex."*

Encouragement for family members

To show your love and gratitude for your loved one who's on military or civilian deployment, take a deep breath, relax, put your best foot forward, pray and then handle your "home front" mission.

Rest assured your loved one can han-

dle his or her deployment mission. Show him or her you can and will "keep the home fires burning." God bless us everyone!

**Cynthia and Jack Ratliff**  
 Cordova, Ala.

Last supper worth reliving

The "Living Last Supper" will be enacted tonight at 7 at Bicentennial Chapel. Some of the "thespians" in the Protestant congregation will portray Jesus and his disciples. You are invited to witness this superb performance. Every two years this production is brought to you by the Protestant congregation. Communion will be served. This event includes the word "Living" as the actors actually "speak" the words of each disciple.

The participants volunteer many hours in rehearsals as well as learning their dialogues. The costumes were made many years ago by some of the Protestant women. The backdrop was skillfully and artfully painted. The rest of the set will be put in place by the volunteer technical staff, along with the sound. Makeup and wigs will be done by volunteers also.

**Jeannette E. Sellers**

Motorcycle rules hit nerve

The article titled "Army drives home mandatory rules for motorcyclists" published in the March 17 edition of the Redstone Rocket hit a nerve with me. As a motorcyclist, I deeply resent the insinuation that motorcyclists are a bunch of unsafe idiots with a death wish and must be specially trained so they don't show up as a statistic on the Arsenal's fatality list. Motorcyclists will always have a greater incentive to be

careful than those surrounded by a 'cage' (automobile). We don't have 'fender-benders.' If we have an accident, it's a likely trip to the hospital or the obituary page. We ride for the experience of the ride, the fresh air, sights, sounds, freedom and the pleasure of the trip. Unlike most people, it's not just the destination for us; it's the journey.

See Rules on page 3

An open lane random survey

Who should play you in a movie about your life?

By **KELLEY LANE**  
 Staff writer  
 kelleyqa@bellsouth.net



*Spc. Chaka Grant-Timmons*  
 Bicentennial Chapel  
 "Nia Long, she's a good actress and it's time for her to make a comeback."



*Tyrone Timmons*  
 corrections officer  
 "Denzel Washington is a good actor. He's the only one who could capture the essence of Tyrone. He's the only one with the talent. You have to be very talented to be a father, a husband and a corrections officer. It's a demanding job 24 hours a day."

*Frederick Edge*  
 contractor  
 "I would pick Bernie Mac. He just captures everything about me. He's funny, he can get serious with it and handle business when he needs to."



*Sgt. Ernest Williams*  
 Garrison  
 "Antonio Banderas, he's one of my favorite actors."



Quote of the week

'It ain't so much the things you don't know that get you in trouble. It's the things you know that just ain't so.'

— Artimus Ward, 1834-67

Redstone Rocket

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# Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

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

**March 26:** An individual reported that someone splattered blood on his jacket which was hung up and unattended at building 3438. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

**March 27:** An individual reported that someone broke the driver's side mirror on his personal vehicle while it was parked and unattended at building 3499. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

**March 27:** An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a revoked driver's license during an inspection at Gate 8. He was issued a violation notice and released.

**March 28:** An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license and displaying an improper vehicle license plate during an inspection at Gate 9. He was issued two violation notices and released.

**March 30:** An individual was observed failing to stop at a posted stop sign at Goss Road and Bennett Drive. When

stopped, he was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license. He was issued two violation notices and released.

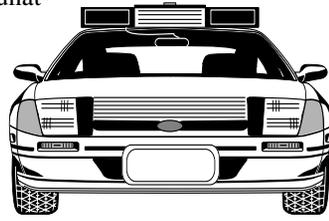
**March 31:** An individual was observed exceeding the posted speed limit on Neal Road. When stopped, he was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license. He was issued two violation notices and released.

**April 1:** A Soldier was found to be in possession of marijuana and stolen property during a Health and Welfare Inspection. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

**April 1:** An individual reported that she has been receiving harassing telephone calls from her ex-husband at building 4100. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

**Traffic accidents reported:** 3 without injuries, 1 with injuries.

**Violation notices issued:** 32 speeding, 1 improper display of license plate, 7 failure to obey a traffic control device, 1 failure to maintain current address on license, 1 failure to identify and 4 driving with a suspended/revoked driver's license.



## Motorcyclist resents being 'singled out'

### Rules

continued from page 2

It also disturbs me to find that the professional politicians, bureaucrats and high-ranking military officers of the DoD believe that motorcyclists are a threat to themselves and need more training than automobile drivers. According to the Motorcycle Crash Statistics from 2001 found on the Motorcycle Safety Foundation web site, there were 3.81 fatalities per 100 crashes in 2001. According to the 10 p.m. newscast on WAAY Channel 31 television on March 20, two-thirds of all motorcycle accidents with automobiles were the fault of the automobile driver. That says we could cut motorcyclist fatalities by 66 percent if we could keep the automobiles off of us. It seems to me that the Army and DoD ought to put their money where they can get a greater return on their investment.

So where is the automobile driver-training course to be found? Does DoD want to provide training for automobile drivers? I for one, wish they would. I'm tired of being cut off, having cars fail to yield the right-of-way, being crowded out of my lane and seeing any number of other stupid things done because "it's only a motorcycle." I'm tired of having the 20 to 30 year old soccer mom in her 4,500 pound SUV playing tag with my rear fender while she's screaming at the kids, talking on the cell phone, putting on her makeup and trying to make up for lost time because she's running late for work.

I don't object to taking the rider's course. I strongly encourage every motorcyclist to take the course, not just those riding on Redstone Arsenal. I'll take it again because it's a great defensive driving course. I wish automobile drivers would take it, too. DoD doesn't force automobile drivers to take advanced driver training classes. Maybe they should. It might keep me from being run over and killed by an inattentive or inconsiderate driver. But I'm adamantly opposed to having any training forced upon us or automobile drivers just as I'm opposed to forced seat-belt usage, helmet laws, anti-smoking legislation and other restrictions upon my rights to accept or reject personal risks. What have motorcyclists done that warrant being singled out for forced training? We can't be a threat to other vehicles

because we're the smallest vehicles on the highway.

As for the MP's and other law enforcement officers checking for proper rider apparel, don't they already have enough to do? Wasn't it enough that they had to be lawyers, judges, paramedics, pharmacists, second-guessed, shot at, scorned and underpaid? Don't they have enough to do without checking to see if motorcyclists have on helmets, protective eyewear, boots, gloves, bright clothing, reflective striping and other protective clothing? What are they going to be asked to do next, stop motorcyclists to check and see if they're wearing Kevlar underwear? Where do the regulations, ordinances, statutes, executive orders and laws stop? There seems to be no end to them. Aren't the existing federal and state laws enough? Who protects us from oppressive overregulation? Must we gradually become a police state at the hands of otherwise well-intentioned people? I hope not.

**Steven Basham**

*Editor's note: A vacant position for defensive driving instruction is scheduled for fiscal 2006 when funding becomes available, according to John Zuber, Garrison safety specialist.*

## Getting to know you

By KIM MASON  
Staff writer  
kimberly.mason@redstone.army.mil

**Name:** George Etter

**Job:** Assistant facilities manager, Software Engineering Directorate

**Where do you call home?**  
Denver, Colo.

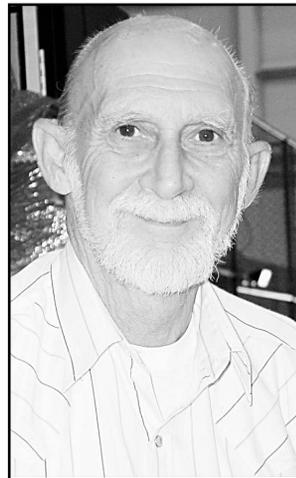
**What do you like about your job?**

The interface with all the people. There are almost 860 people that I interface with daily. Another great thing is the person-

ality of all the people who work here. From the janitors, to the support personnel to the engineers to those with doctorates you never know who you are talking to because they feel there is no difference ... it is one big family out here.

**What do you like to do in your spare time?**

I am raising my three grandchildren so I don't have a lot of spare time, but I do like to ride motorcycles, fish and do carpentry work.



**What are your goals?**

To see SED at full growth, to see (the expansion to) all five buildings.



Courtesy photo

### Aviation winner

Al Abejon of Madison has received the Joseph P. Cribbins Award as the Army Aviation Association of America's Department of the Army Civilian of the Year for 2003.

# Design-build project was construction first

## Sparkman Center set new standard

By SKIP VAUGHN  
Rocket editor  
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The then Missile Command work force didn't exactly welcome the Sparkman Center concept with open arms.

Workers had grown accustomed to their own enclosed buildings and offices. They anguished about Sparkman's open office environment.

"They were concerned about privacy, security, noise, parking, not enough bathrooms to accommodate all the people," recalled Carol Meekins, the Sparkman complex manager from 1994 until 2001. "Now everybody loves it."

The original objective for the 10-year-old complex was to build a facility that looked and operated like a corporate headquarters. Designers also wanted a flexible structure that could be changed to move people around.

"We were looking at a state-of-the-art building that could carry us into the 21st century and still not be outdated, and I think we achieved that," Meekins said. "And it's flexible enough that we can change the configuration of the building. And that capability has saved the Army a tremendous amount of money."

The design-build project, a new concept to the Army, cut about two years off the construction schedule. "We were able to move into the complex two years early," Meekins said.

The late Sam Fields, a master planner in the Directorate of Public Works, served as the project manager and was known as father of the Sparkman Center.

"He had the charisma, the charm, the determination to go out and sell the project," Meekins said. "Sam was the person who kept pushing it."

Joe Davis served as project engineer over construction for the Directorate of Public Works, and was the command's primary point of contact with the Corps of Engineers and the contractor during the center's construction.

"It was 683,000 square feet," Davis, chief of engineering plans and construction division in Directorate of Public Works, said. "It was a \$67 million design-build construction project."

"It was the first design-build job we've ever done, and what I mean by that is contracting for design of the building and for

the construction of the building at the same time. That was a new technique in construction building, and we learned on a \$67 million project," he said. "I would have whole lot rather learned on a smaller building till we cut our teeth on one that size. I guess compared to everything we've ever done, it was a monumental effort to design and build a project for construction and apply it to a project that size all at once."

## 'The Sparkman Center was truly a showplace for the Army.'

— Carol Meekins  
former complex manager

The Sparkman Center was the culmination of a long effort to gain a new administrative complex for Redstone and represented the first office building to be constructed here since 1960. It was first proposed by Directorate of Engineering and Housing as a fiscal 1984 construction project to consolidate in one central location many administrative functions housed in old warehouses and ordnance loading facilities left over from World War II.

The Army Materiel Command in 1986 identified the Sparkman Center as a potential third-party contracting project that could be owned by a private builder and leased back to the government. The next year Congress passed legislation authorizing such third-party ventures and the Sparkman Center was pursued on that basis until 1990 when the secretary of defense decided it should be funded instead by the Army and had it placed in the military construction program at a size of 543,000 square feet and cost of \$67.6 million. Congress empowered the Army to make the most of the \$67.6 million and consequently the Army was able to stretch the funding to cover a 683,000 square foot complex.

Mobile District Corps of Engineers issued a request for proposals for design and construction. Centex-Rooney Construction Company of Fort Lauderdale, Fla., was issued a notice to proceed with construction Sept. 22, 1992. The new complex was dedicated Aug. 22, 1994.

"The thing I'm proudest of is it looks like we built it all at one time, but as you know we built it in three phases," Davis said. "It looks like we knew where we

were going before we started. We just didn't get the money till two additional (base realignment and closure) actions."

One of the main goals was to make the complex flexible. "And I'm glad we did because it seems like it's been in a constant state of change since we finished. That same concept we're using today," Davis said. This built-in flexibility includes the raised floor with the electrical floor boxes, the movable walls and the carpet tiles which are easily picked up and put back down.

"Of course the command was very proud of the complex," Meekins said. "(Then commanding general James) Link was very proud of this building and was always inviting dignitaries — assistant secretary of the Army, chief of staff of the Army, heads of organizations, the sergeant major of the Army. We did tours for all of those folks. The

Sparkman Center was truly a showplace for the Army."

Meekins established the Sparkman Management Office and managed the complex for its first seven years. Before that she worked on the project development team and the command's construction liaison team for the Sparkman Center. She became a realty specialist in the Engineering, Environment and Logistics Oversight Office in April 2001. That office's environmental team was already in building 111; and Meekins and the rest of the engineering and facilities team moved out of the Sparkman Center to join it last February.

"I think the (Sparkman) building has served the Army well," she said. "In my opinion, it met the intent of providing state-of-the-art flexibility that has functioned well ... After all these years, I still get excited about that project."

## Senator Sparkman was friend to Redstone, Army

Sen. John Jackson Sparkman was born near Hartselle on Dec. 20, 1899. He earned numerous degrees from the University of Alabama and a degree from Auburn University. Sparkman married the former Ivo Hall and they had one daughter, Julie Ann (Mrs. Tazewell T. Shepard Jr.).

Sparkman began his career as a lawyer in Huntsville from 1935 to 1937. Elected to represent the eighth congressional district in 1936, he was instrumental in encouraging the Army to locate a chemical munitions plant near Huntsville in 1941 that would be named Huntsville Arsenal.

Throughout World War II, Sparkman took a personal interest in Redstone Arsenal. When the Army implemented plans to turn operations at Redstone Arsenal over to a contractor, Sparkman interceded on behalf of the employees, convincing the Army that government employees would work harder for the Army than a contractor. Sparkman was right. Employees of Redstone Arsenal won the Army-Navy "E" Award (for outstanding production in war equipment) five different times. When additional housing was needed for the arsenal complex, Sparkman introduced legislation to fund it.

Elected to the Senate in 1948, Sparkman once again played an influential role in convincing the Army to locate its new missile and rocket research efforts at Redstone Arsenal.

In later years, he would visit Redstone often, always supportive of the Army's efforts in the field of missilery.

But Sparkman's interest in the Army didn't just reside at Redstone. He is credited for personally writing four of the most important pieces of legislation for all of those in uniform: the G.I. Bill of Rights, the Korean Veterans Act, the G.I. Bill for Vietnam

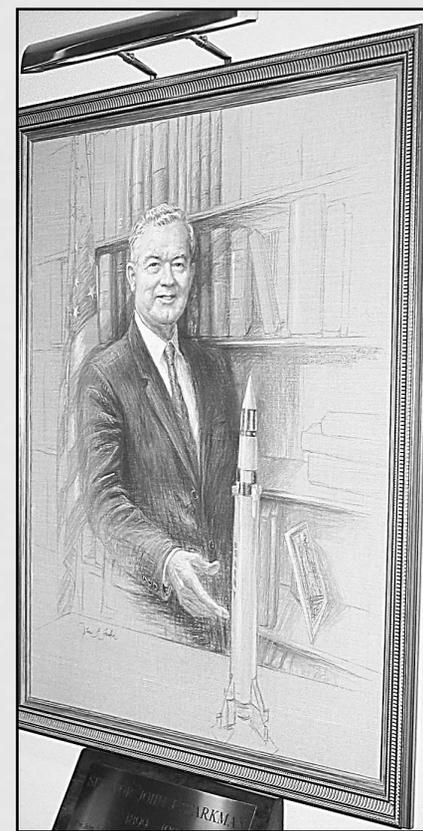


Photo by Skip Vaughn  
**IN MEMORY—** This portrait of the late Sen. John Sparkman is displayed in the lobby of Sparkman Center building 5300.

Veterans and the Soldiers and Sailors Relief Act.

Sparkman completed 42 continuous years of service in Congress in January 1979. He died Nov. 19, 1985.

*Editor's note: The Historical Office provided this article which appeared in the Aug. 24, 1994 Redstone Rocket dedicated to the opening of the Sparkman Center.*

# 'To me it's just been wonderful'

## Sparkman complex manager recalls center's 10-year history

By SKIP VAUGHN  
Rocket editor  
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The Sparkman Center opened nearly 10 years ago.

Dedicated to the late Sen. John Sparkman, the campus-style complex has 1,017,891 square feet in nine structures: one five-story, one four-story, six three-story and one one-story. It serves as the headquarters for the Aviation and Missile Command.

"It's been wonderful," Sparkman complex manager Edna Dye said of the center's 10-year history. "There's so many amenities in here, you know, the fitness center, the gift shop and all the good stuff, stamp machines. To me it's just been wonderful. The complex is gorgeous, the lighting is wonderful, the ventilation is good. We have so much fresh air pumped in.

"It's been good. Of course right now it's not so good with the construction going on (in the parking lots)," she added, laughing. "But it's going to make it better."

About 4,300 people work at the office complex which includes a cafeteria and 690-seat auditorium. Twenty-eight organizations have offices there.

The first phase, consisting of six buildings, was dedicated in August 1994 to the late senator who was instrumental in bringing the Army to Huntsville in 1941.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony for phase two, consisting of one building, was held in April 1996. Phase three, consisting of two buildings, was dedicated to Sen. Howell Heflin in July 1997.

Dye became the center's manager about four years ago and plans to retire by this summer with 29 years service. "This is the kind of job I love. I love the interaction with people and I love the wild pace that we have," she said. "But it's time for me to move on." She has worked in the Sparkman Management Office throughout its 10 years.

"I just don't really see a whole lot of changes (in that decade) other than we get spoiled with all the amenities that we have in here and we have a tendency to take it for granted sometime. But then when you move to another building, you really realize what you're missing," she said. "Organizations come and go. Overall I think everybody that's worked in here has enjoyed it. I don't see how you wouldn't because you've got everything that you need right here at your fingertips. There are several eating places, stamp machines, it's got everything."

Shirlee Turpen, management assistant for the chief of staff, has similar thoughts about the center. "I love it, everything is really convenient," she said. "You've got the store, the cafeteria. Everything is really close. You don't even have to leave post for anything."

Ongoing projects include force protection construction and communications upgrades in the parking lots. "And once



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**CUSTOMER INTERACTION— Sparkman complex manager Edna Dye talks with command ombudsman Randy Richardson.**

those two things have been completed and everything gets back to normal, it'll be so much better," Dye said. "Those are the two major projects we've got going on which will be tremendous help for the parking."

An electronic gate is being added to permit parking near the buildings in accordance with Defense Department

antiterrorism standards. An additional 196 parking spaces will be inside a controlled area. This additional parking will be for handicapped employees who work at the complex and government vehicles that are assigned to organizations in the complex. The first phase of the project began Jan. 20 and should be finished by late October.

# Model family supports Army aviation safety



Army Aviation Digest photo  
**PEARL OF WISDOM**— Wanda McLemore poses as Pearl on the back cover of a 1974 issue of Army Aviation Digest.

*McLemore celebrates 30th anniversary as Pearl in aviation magazine*

By **KIM MASON**  
Staff writer  
kimberly.mason@redstone.army.mil

It has been 30 years since Wanda McLemore last appeared as “Pearl” in Army Aviation Digest, but for many aviators of that era it is just like yesterday.

“When you say Pearl, Wanda is the one people remember,” retired Col. Max McCullar said. “We wanted to catch the aviator’s eyes at the time and it did the trick, people today still remember it.”

Personal Equipment and Rescue/Survival Lowdown or Pearl was a section created to catch the aviator’s attention about safety. In 1967 Pearl made her first appearance in the Army Aviation Digest: “My name is Pearl and I’ll be appearing on these pages regularly to talk to you and



Photo by Kim Mason

**LIKE MOTHER LIKE DAUGHTER**— Wanda McLemore, center, holds an Army Aviation Digest, in which she appeared on the back cover as Pearl. With her are daughters Debbie Baugh, left, and Chief Warrant Officer Stormy Ripley.

answer questions about personal equipment and rescue and survival gear. I will answer all questions sent to me. If I don’t know the answers, I’ll ask the experts.”

McCullar, who retired as the commander of Army Agency for Aviation Safety at Fort Rucker in 1974, said that Pearl was created when special protective equipment for Army aviators was first being introduced. It was vital at the time for aviators to be aware of the new safety gear.

McLemore was asked to be a Pearl model in 1971 while her husband, a fixed wing and rotor pilot, was stationed at Fort Rucker. She owned a charm and modeling school at the time and the photographer she used at her school also worked for the safety center. He approached her about volunteering as a model for the military magazine.

Eager to help, McLemore spent four years modeling as Pearl. She is the most memorable Pearl because she modeled for it the longest. She laughs now at how Soldiers would flock to her really thinking her name was Pearl.

“I’m really just blown away. After all these years ... I still see the aviators, who have since retired and work for industry, and they still call me Pearl to this day. I

didn’t think at the time when I did it that it would be such a lasting thing.”

McLemore’s role in aviation safety did not stop there. She participated in the “take a minute for aviation safety” campaign as well as the formal ribbon cutting of the new Aviation Safety Center in 1973. Her family as well has played a significant role in aviation safety. McLemore’s husband, retired Col. Melvin McLemore, served as the director of Army Air Traffic Control at Fort Rucker during his last eight years in the military. “He was literally responsible for the safety of the skies in support of Army aircraft and air traffic control towers all around the world. This equates to being responsible for a lot of lives,” Debbie Baugh, McLemore’s youngest daughter, said. “I recall when he approached his 30th year to retire, Operation Desert Storm/Desert Shield was just getting started, and he elected to remain in service to ensure set up of all the air traffic control towers and associated requirements were in place.” Melvin McLemore is currently employed by SAIC.

McLemore’s oldest daughter, Chief Warrant Officer Stormy Ripley, is a Black

See **Pearl** on page 8

# Army acquisition leader sees challenges on horizon

## People make difference in 'world-class' Army

By DAN O'BOYLE  
 For the Rocket

Asking questions — both trivia and trick — Claude Bolton Jr., assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology, delivered the TEAMS 2004 luncheon address March 30, challenging those in attendance to “maintain a world-class military on 2 percent of the gross domestic product, with 100 years of history against us.”

Focusing on the Southeastern Software Engineering Conference portion of TEAMS, Bolton said that Adm. Grace Hopper coined the term “bug” for computer problems. He went on to say that all the best hardware in the world is no good, if the software that runs the hardware has bugs.

“I’m an old fighter pilot, and I take any shot I can get,” Bolton said. “When I came into this acquisition business, I said that we need to focus on programs, people, production, improvement. Since I’ve been on board, 30 programs have been termi-

nated. In terms of people, we have 52,000 civilians and 1,600 military in the acquisition work force. Five years from now, one-half of the civilian work force will be gone. We’re looking at what we can do to turn around our recruiting efforts.”

In terms of software, Bolton said that software is one of the key elements in the Army’s transformation.

“Basically, we’re trying to figure out what’s going on in the battlespace,” Bolton said. “We call it situational awareness, but it’s really answering the question: ‘What’s the enemy doing?’ If we can figure out what the enemy is doing, before he figures out what we are doing, we can put a rock on his head, before he puts a rock on our head. If we do that enough times, we win. But we’ve got to have the information. The Army wants to be so dominant that the enemy actually knows that we know everything that they’re going to do, before they do it.”

Continuing on the Army transformation trail, Bolton stressed the unique aspects that are going into the development of the Future Combat System.

“We realize that this is not just a materiel solution called FCS,” he said. “It’s goes across the entire way that we do

business in the Army. Doctrine, organization, structure, leadership, training, course material, logistics, will all be affected because 20 years from now there won’t be any tanks and no artillery. Tactics, the way we do business, the way we train and fight has to change, and that’s a lot to do.”

Bolton said that FCS represents a tremendous challenge to the testing community.

“How do you test a system of systems?” Bolton asked. “FCS rivals what NASA did in the ‘60s with the space program and what we did in the Manhattan Project back in the ‘40s. This is huge. We are all on the leading edge and learning as we go through this.”

Bolton also said that FCS faces software challenges.

“Right now, we’re looking at 33.3 million lines of code in FCS,” he said. “We’ve been told that we can’t do this. But we’ve spent about 18 months getting our act together, so that when SDD (System Development and Demonstration) kicked off, we weren’t going from ground zero. And that’s paid big dividends. We’re doing a good job, and we’re going to get even better at it.”

The Army Strategic Software Improvement Program will make a difference, he said, in FCS and the Future Force.

“We will be able to get programs out

there on time and with the capabilities requested. This is a long-term engagement with PEO/PMs, software engineering centers, and the Software Engineering Institute to identify opportunities and adopt best practices. It is broad in scope, addressing the key elements mentioned earlier — people, programs, production, improvement — across the entire Army.”

Sometime between 2010 and 2020, we will be in a big war, Bolton said.

“It may be a cold war, but we will be spending far more than 2 percent of our gross domestic product,” he said. “We will repeat history and we must change the way that we do business. We have 320,000 Soldiers in 120 countries today. Our op-tempo is higher today than it was 12 years ago. And yet, across the board, we’re down 30 to 40 percent in terms of people, infrastructure. How do you do that with less money and less people?”

“Well it’s going to be people just like you, using what’s between your ears and your God-given talents to make this country and our Army great. Every man and woman on point for us is a hero. And you are the ones who are responsible for our heroes doing the jobs that they are doing today. What you do makes a big difference in what we do in the United States Army. You make the difference.”



File photo

Claude Bolton Jr.

## ■ Pearl’s legacy continues through daughters

### Pearl

continued from page 6

Hawk pilot and aviation safety officer at Fort Bragg, N.C. She now knows the challenge of making pilots aware of aviation safety. “I know it (Pearl) worked because I’ve been on the other side and know that you need something to get the Soldiers interested, to make them pay attention,” Ripley said. “People are visual, they need the visuals to get the information.”

Baugh, a command executive assistant for Logistics Support Activity, also has a role in aviation safety.

“I am certainly proud to be part of LOGSA, since it serves many critical roles in support of aviation including its roles as the Program Manager for the Army Oil Analysis Program, which directly contributes to the safety of avia-

tion weapon systems through its 24 fixed based and two mobile labs around the globe,” she said. “These labs analyze the internal condition of engines, transmissions and components to detect impending failures in order to determine whether an aircraft should be flown or not.”

After traveling throughout the world and even modeling in Germany, McLemore and her husband have resided in Madison for the past seven years. She is a real estate agent for Re/Max of Madison. They both are still avid aviator enthusiasts and attended the recent Army Aviation Association of America conference in Nashville.

Army Aviation Digest was an official Army publication produced by the aviation center/school at Fort Rucker. Its final publication was in 1995. The Pearl section appeared until 1992, but only featured female models until 1987.

# Fund-raisers on tap for AER campaign

The Army Emergency Relief campaign office provided the following calendar of events.

- Magnetic yellow ribbons for sale for \$5 through May 15 at Army Community Service, sponsored by ACS volunteers. For information call Inger Frye or Mary Breeden 876-5397.

- Stuffed patriotic bears for sale through May 15 at Resource Management Directorate, building 5300. For information call Linda Manning 876-1706.

- Patriotic teddy bears and pins for sale through May 15 in front of cafeteria at building 5400, sponsored by Research Development and Engineering Center. For information call Janet Martin 313-1996.

- Chocolate Gallery Easter and Mother's Day Baskets for sale through May 15, sponsored by the Acquisition Center. For information call Sarah Kilpatrick 876-2698.

- Flag Bag Totes for sale through May 15, sponsored by the Acquisition Center. For information call Amy Pierce 842-6045.

- America 2005 calendars for sale through May 15 at building 5301, sponsored by Integrated Materiel Management

Center, Materiel Management Directorate. For information call J.D. Crownover 876-8303.

- Pentagon Memorial Pins and Stickers for sale through May 15, sponsored by IMMC, MMD. For information call Crownover 876-8303.

- Domino Pizza fund-raising cards for sale through May 15 at building 5309, second floor, sponsored by IMMC. For information call Aileen Jacques 313-1653.

- Scented candles for sale through May 15 at building 5302, sponsored by IMMC. For information call Teri Benson 842-7717.

- Ice cream social and scented candle sale, April 13 from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at building 5300, sponsored by IMMC. For information call Benson 842-7717.

- Friendly Folks personalized cartoons for sale April 14 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Sparkman Cafeteria, sponsored by IMMC, DMA Team. For information call Pat Reilly 876-0209 or Sandra Swartz 842-6772.

- Boxed lunch prepared by Sparkman Cafeteria, April 14 at building 5400, room S-142, sponsored by Technical Manage-

ment Directorate, Research Development and Engineering Center. For information call Dorothy May 842-8391.

- Book sale April 19-23 at building 5300, first floor corridor between 5303 and 5304, sponsored by Command Analysis Directorate. For information call Brian Barry 876-5743.

- Car wash/hot dog sale, April 22 at Military Personnel Office, building 3494. For information call Barbara Moudy 842-2717.

- Golf tournament four-person scramble, April 23 at 7:30 a.m. at Redstone Golf Course, sponsored by the Integrated Materiel Management Center. For information call Sgt. 1st Class Wilbur Williams or Sgt. 1st Class Roy Mixon 876-5399.

- Second annual Charity Car Show, April 24 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the parade field by the bowling center, sponsored by Fox Army Health Center. For information call Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Perkins 955-8888, ext. 1106.

- Garrison Fun Day, May 4 at building 4488. Rain date is May 5. For information call Donna Johnson 876-9675.

- Car wash/hot dog sale, May 7 at the Car Wash complex by Shopette, sponsored by Morale Welfare and Recreation. For information call Bill Woosley 955-7727.

- Car wash/hot dog sale, May 13 at MILPO. For information call Moudy 842-2717.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**BENEFIT BASKETS**— Sarah Kilpatrick of the Acquisition Center is selling Chocolate Gallery Easter and Mother's Day Baskets as an AER fund-raiser. Price is \$29 each. For information call her at 876-2698.

## Units add 22 Soldiers in month

Twenty-two Soldiers, including six officers, arrived for duty in March, according to the Garrison.

The in-process list included: Sgt. James Coletrane, Garrison; Staff Sgt. Michael Brown, MEDDAC; Sgt. 1st Class Chris Smay, Delta Company; Staff Sgt. Kenneth Celestine, AMCOM; Master Sgt. Lyle Torongeau, Integrated Materiel Management Center; Master Sgt. Terry L. Long, Logistics Support Activity; Staff Sgt. John Boyd, Delta Company; Spc. Jerome Michael, Garri-

son; Staff Sgt. Donald James, Delta Company; Command Sgt. Maj. Mark Gerecht, Garrison; Staff Sgt. Willie Fegans, Delta Company; Pvt. Amanda Jarosz, Garrison; Staff Sgt. Camellia Lawrence, Delta Company; Spc. Denise Jackson, MEDDAC; Sgt. 1st Class Leroy Stokes, Delta Company; Sgt. 1st Class Mark Magee, AMCOM; 2nd Lt. Tezslyn Johnson, 1st Lt. Michael Barker, Maj. Jeffrey Johnson, Capt. Richard A. Hall, Capt. Robert Dewberry and Maj. Christopher Boyd.

# Best to go back to basics for process improvements

## Free workshop scheduled at Software Engineering

By MAMIE MORGAN  
 For the Rocket

How do you make a peanut butter and jelly sandwich?

This question takes "process" back to its basic form.

Task or activity: 1. Take two slices of bread out of the bag. 2. Place peanut butter on one slice of bread. 3. Place jelly on the other slice of bread. 4. Place the slice of bread with peanut butter on top of the slice of bread with jelly to be sure the condiments sides are together. 5. Eat the sandwich.

Details can be added. For example, twist off the twist tie on the bread bag or how much jelly to use, how to spread, etc. Then there are the "exceptions," "changes" or "tailoring" of the process. Some people like their bread with the crust cut off - but when do you do this? Prior to or after the condiments have been added? What about toasting the bread? Then there is the ever popular question of "How do you slice the sandwich prior to eating it?" In squares or triangles?

Buzz words have been swirling around this thing they call "process": Total Quality Management, Continuous Improvement, Process Improvement, ISO 9000, Capability Maturity Model, Six-Sigma, etc. All have the same purpose - make a higher quality product/service faster and cheaper. This is a necessity in our indus-

try. The warfighter is our No. 1 priority and being able to respond/adapt quickly to the needs/requests of those in the field.

In the last decade contractors have been requested to document their processes in a number of various ways - one way was to become Level 3. What exactly does that mean? Basically it means that the way the contractor does business (whether it is manufacturing of parts or development of software) is repeatable and defined, of high quality, and measurable.

Now, it has been mandated by Section 804 of the Bob Stump National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2003 that government agencies begin process improvement efforts in-house. Section 804 requires the establishment of software "acquisition process improvement" programs by military departments and those defense agencies that manage major defense acquisition programs with a substantial software component.

What this means is that it has been

**Buzz words have been swirling around this thing they call 'process.' All have the same purpose - make a higher quality product/service faster and cheaper.**

mandated by legislation that each military department and the heads of relevant defense agencies establish an acquisition process improvement program. The API requirements include: documented processes; efforts to develop appropriate metrics for performance measurement and acquisition process improvement; a process to ensure appropriate training or experience; and a process to ensure adherence to processes and requirements.

By starting a process improvement effort in-house, the government agencies will complement the efforts being accomplished by their Level 3 contractors. Most government agencies do not manufacture parts or develop software - they manage, monitor and acquire these services from contractors. To support organizations that "acquire" products/services the Software Engineering Institute created an acquisition CMM to complement the CMM models used by the contractors. This is the Software Acquisition Capability Maturity Model. It has been written to include acquisition of both systems and software. The SA-CMM is a framework for improving acquisition processes and describes

the "buyers" role. The model is used for assisting senior management to set goals and to assess an organization's maturity - its use is appropriate throughout the entire product life-cycle.

As a part of the Software Engineering Directorate tri-focal approach of promoting improvement within the SED, across the Army, and throughout the community, the SED in partnership with the SEI is hosting a free Acquisition Process Improvement Workshop on April 27 from noon to 4:30 p.m. in building 6263. This workshop was developed to provide insight into Section 804 requirements and how those requirements can positively influence product acquisition and development. The workshop is intended for the DoD acquisition work force, to include program management office personnel, matrixed functionals, software and hardware acquisition.

To register or for more information, call Mamie Morgan at 890-4514. Registration deadline for this free event is April 22.

*Editor's note: Morgan is a senior systems engineer for L-3 Government Services Inc., formerly EER Systems.*



Photo by Skip Vaughn

## Safety honorees

The Redstone Arsenal Safety and Occupational Health Council presented certificates of appreciation March 31 for support of the Garrison safety program in 2003. From left honorees Norene Fischer, an engineering technician for contractor AMTEC at Redstone Technical Test Center, and George Hodges, an engineer in the RTTC climatic test branch, talk with Darrell Brewer, deputy to the garrison commander, and safety specialist John Zuber. Not pictured are honorees Patricia Albert of Fox Army Health Center and Jeff Burns of the fire department.

# Unit bragging rights at stake in military competition

*Two-man teams tested in six grueling events*

By **Spc. RYAN McClymont**  
Staff writer  
ryan.mcclymont@redstone.army.mil

The annual 832nd Ordnance Brigade military stakes competition March 27 pitted company against company in six military skills events including an M-16

shootout, common task testing, hand grenade assault course, a five-mile ruck march, an obstacle course and the Army physical fitness test.

The highlight of this year's MIL-STAKES was the Lewis Leffman competition, in which six two-man teams competed against each other in all six MILSTAKES events to see who would come out victorious.

"Not only did the competition honor Sgt. Leffman as an outstanding

Ordnance Soldier, but it pushed the competitors to their limits as Soldiers and it made them make a choice between implementing the four tenants (of the warrior ethos; I will always place the mission first, I will never accept defeat, I will never quit, and I will never leave a fallen comrade) or failing themselves, their buddies and their unit," said Capt. Stephen Smith, the 832nd adjutant. "It put the warrior ethos into context and until we do that in all our training we're not preparing our Soldiers for battle."

Pfc. Shawn Landin and Pvt. Jeffery Zachary (B Company) took first place, Maj. Michael Quinn and Capt. Stephen Smith second and Pvt. Joseph Perkins and Pvt. Saben Santiago (C Company) took third.

"The competition was fun because it was a change in the training environment, it was motivating and it was a good test of will," Santiago said. "It was a lot harder than what I had expected."

**HERE WE GO**— Lewis Leffman competitors ruck march from the Army physical fitness test site to the grenade assault course.



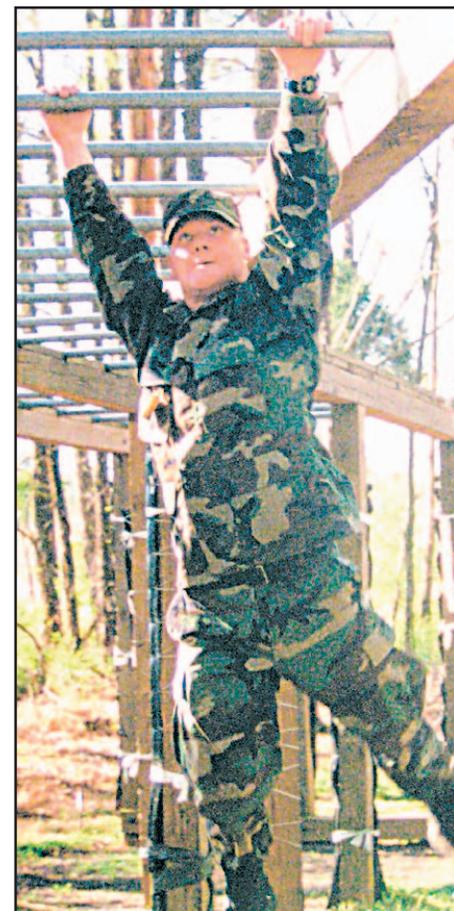
**PROTECTIVE GEAR**— Pfc. Robert Sotta dons full military-oriented protective posture gear during the common task testing portion of the Lewis Leffman competition.



*Photos by  
Spc. Ryan McClymont*



**FIRE AWAY**— Lewis Leffman competitor Capt. Stephen Smith fires his M-16 during the marksmanship portion of the competition.



**LIFE'S OBSTACLES**— Pvt. Joseph Perkins overcomes one of the sections of the Lewis Leffman obstacle course.



**FRAG OUT**— A two-man team engages one of three targets during the hand grenade assault course.



**ON TARGET**— Pfc. Kyle Stipp consults with a range noncommissioned officer while zeroing his M-16 for the Lewis Leffman marksmanship event.



**OUT OF THE WOODS**— Pfc. Kyle Stipp (front) and Pfc. Robert Sotta negotiate terrain during the land navigation portion of the Lewis Leffman competition.

# Sail safely into boating season with class

*Coast Guard auxiliary teaches seamanship*

By **KELLEY LANE**  
 Staff writer  
 kelleyqa@bellsouth.net

Summer is fast approaching and with it many people's dreams of sunny days on the lakes and rivers of the Tennessee Valley. For those new to boating, the Coast Guard Auxiliary Redstone Flotilla 2406 offers Boating Skills and Seamanship Safety Classes throughout the season. They have offered the course at Redstone since 1989.

The six-week program consists of a weekly two-hour class meeting Thursday evenings at 6:30 in room 215 of Stillwell Hall, building 3305. Classes are open to the public, with accommodations made for those without Arsenal access. Instructors are flotilla members with extensive marine experience in either the armed forces, private boating or both. The program covers all the basics of boating.

Coursework begins with selecting a vessel for your needs and skill level, then progresses into basic equipment and handling. Further classes teach the rules and guidelines of waterway signs and markers. Also included is instruction on powering and trailering your boat, lines and knots, weather considerations, and marine radio operation.

"It's tailored also to our boating area," Tom Kunhart, flotilla public education staff officer, said. "One particular class, Inland Boating, really discusses how they can safely get through locks. If you want to go any distance on the Tennessee River from Huntsville, either upriver or downriver, you're going to come to a lock. There are certain requirements to get a boat safely through, and we cover that." Other local boating hazards are covered and proper procedures explained.

The course, designed and regulated by the Coast Guard Auxiliary, satisfies the



Photo by Kelley Lane

**THREE MEN AND A BOAT—** Prospective flotilla member Mike Courtemanche, left, waits while his vessel is inspected by instructor John Snyder, flotilla staff officer for vessel examination, and Ken Westra, vice flotilla commander.

written test requirement for a boating endorsement on your driver's license, which is necessary to operate a vessel in Alabama and most other states. When students complete the coursework and examinations, they receive a certificate. They can present that to the driver's license bureau to receive an endorsement honored by all states.

The classes, however, are not limited to

new boaters. Many experienced boaters enroll in the class as a refresher course, to keep abreast of newer guidelines and safety considerations. "A lot of the insurance companies will also offer a discount on their boat insurance policy if they show proof of completion of a boating safety class," Kunhart said. Students may also receive discounts on boating and safety equipment through arrangements made with national companies.

A \$22 fee covers the cost of the text and binder for the class. Couples and families are welcome to attend the course together, paying one fee. "If you don't mind sharing the book or if you have access and want to make copies of some of the lessons in the book, then a family of four can get by on one fee," Kunhart said. Along with lectures and reading material, hands-on experience is provided by instructors bringing the relevant equipment into the classroom.

"We use a variety of teaching methods," Kunhart said. "They get a lot for their \$22, in my opinion."

The Flotilla and its instructors also provide vessel inspections to students and prospective members for free. "We do what we call a courtesy check of their boat to make sure that all the equipment that the state, federal and local govern-

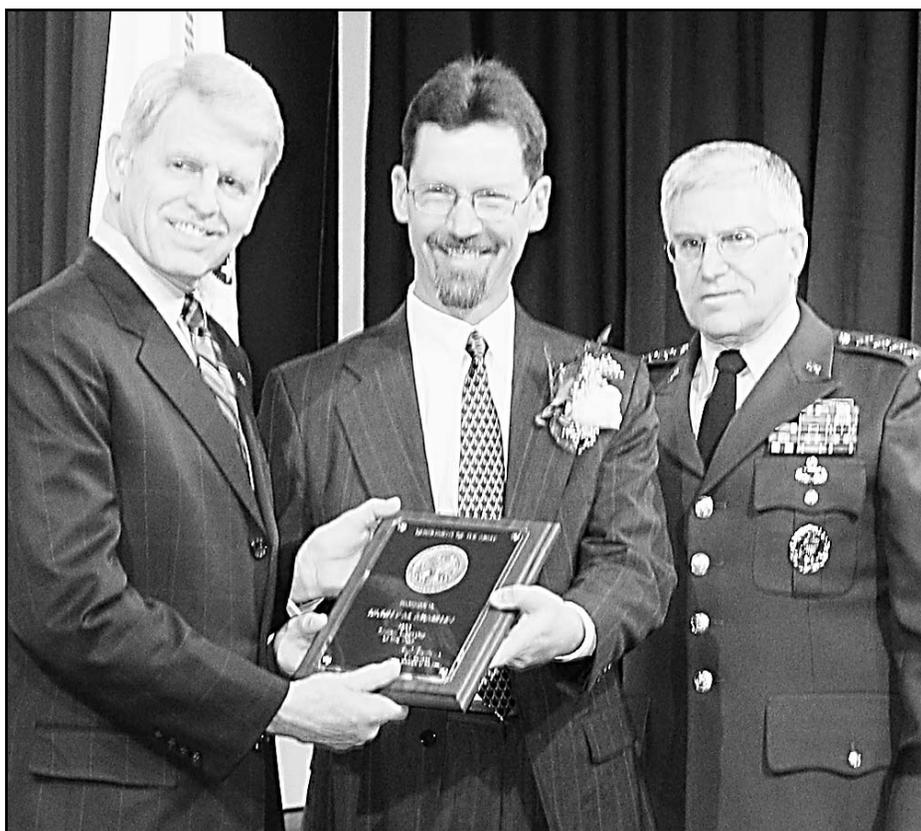
ments require is available," Kunhart said. "Then we put a decal on the side that says we've looked at their boat." Students may bring trailered boats at prearranged times so that their craft and its required safety features can be checked. For docked vessels, arrangements can be made for inspection at their respective site.

These 17 point inspections assure the student that not only do they have the proper equipment, but that it is working. Inspectors may also make safety suggestions to the boat owner, such as the addition of a marine radio.

"Assuming a boat has everything that the government requires, such as life jackets, I think the most important safety equipment to have is a VHF/FM marine radio. That's how you get help if you're in trouble out there," said John Snyder, a retired naval officer who has been an instructor with the program for more than 15 years.

Numerous sessions are scheduled throughout the spring, summer and fall. The first session ran Feb. 12 to March 25. The next session begins Thursday and runs through May. Additional sessions will begin in June, August and October. Thursday's session still has room available. Call Kunhart at 885-7098, 830-6621 or by e-mail at tkunhart@csc.com for more information or enrollment.

# Army's top suggester represents Redstone



## Mark McMillin wins annual recognition

Mark McMillin knows firsthand the benefits of the Army Suggestion Program.

The project officer for the Integrated Materiel Management Center's Project OLR, stationed at Fort Hood, Texas, received the 2003 Civilian Suggester of the Year Award. He was among the honorees at the Secretary of the Army's annual award ceremony March 12 at the Pentagon.

His idea was approved and adopted by the Integrated Material Management Center through the suggestion program in February 2001. It outlined the development of a below depot-level repair program for Utility Helicopter Aircraft T-53 Engines identified as Condition Code F (unserviceable) by the supply system. In addition, his efforts instituted an Army plan to save more than 400 UH-1 helicopters from the junk heap. Under Project OLR, the helicopters will be processed for use in foreign military sales, austere parts harvesting for the DoD fleet, or international humanitarian/counter-narcotics

missions. The T-53 engine repair program he proposed is now the Army source of supply to support the Huey fleet.

McMillin's resourcefulness contributed to savings of \$2.1 million for the Army. He received a \$10,000 cash award in July 2002 for his suggestion, and is expected to receive an additional \$8,749 as soon as the Army Audit Agency completes the required audit.

The Army Suggestion Program encourages Soldiers and civilians to submit ideas that increase the efficiency and productivity of the Army. It is intended to improve morale by providing the opportunity to voluntarily take part in bettering operations and the quality of life within the Army. The program also provides cash award incentives up to \$25,000 for adopted ideas that save government resources.

For more information about the program, call Debra Battle at 876-2290 or visit <https://intranet2.redstone.army.mil/asp/>.

*Editor's note: This article was based on a release from the Army Suggestion Program, force development and management division, Resource Management Directorate.*

Courtesy photo

**AWARD PRESENTATION**— From left are Acting Secretary of the Army R.L. Brownlee, Civilian Suggester of the Year Mark McMillin and Army Vice Chief of Staff Gen. George Casey.



Photo by Kim Mason

## Future technology

Hau Vu, a computer engineer at the Software Engineering Directorate, shows Erica Lockett, Alabama A&M University mechanical engineering student, how to use the Line of Sight Anti-Tank simulator. As a part of the Technological Excellence in Aviation, Missile and Space or TEAMS week, 90 university students and professors from across the nation toured the Advanced Prototyping, Engineering and eXperimentation Lab, the Prototype Integration Facility and the Software Engineering Directorate.

## James Woodley buried in St. Louis

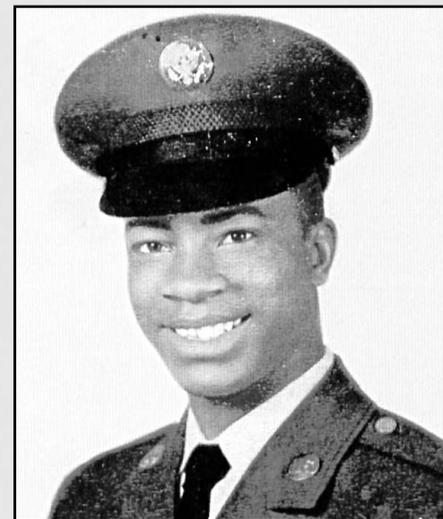
Former AMCOM employee James Woodley died March 1. He was 56.

Woodley worked at the Aviation and Missile Command in the engineering data management system of the Corporate Information Center after moving to Huntsville from St. Louis as a result of the aviation merger.

The St. Louis native had served in the Army for about two years.

Survivors include two sisters, Elaine Jones and Carolyn Jones; two daughters, Nicole Jones and Christina Naylor; a son, Richard Naylor; and six grandsons, Marquis, Anthony, Ethan, Nicholas, Justine and Julian.

Woodley was buried March 5 in the National Cemetery at Jefferson Barracks in St. Louis.



Courtesy photo

**FORMER WORKER**— James Woodley, who worked at AMCOM after moving from St. Louis, died March 1.

# Coalition soldiers train Iraqi Armed Forces to join fight

By Spc. AARON RITTER  
 Army News Service

TAL AFAR, Iraq — Iraqi Armed Forces soldiers are quickly learning, with the assistance of coalition forces, what type of training is required to become an effective fighting force.

The Coalition Military Assistance Training Team, working in northern Iraq, is made up of 10 Soldiers from the 75th Infantry Division from Texas. The Soldiers all volunteered to serve as advisers and liaison officers to ensure that Iraqi soldiers will be prepared to effectively support security operations in the region.

The CMATT team, the first of its kind in this region, is currently working with soldiers of the 3rd Battalion, Iraqi Armed Forces in Tal Afar at a recently renovated military facility referred to as the "The Castle." The Castle, formerly a prison, has been converted to a military barracks housing the 3rd Battalion.

The team advises Iraqi military leadership at Tal Afar, ensuring an effective training program for the IAF soldiers. Directed by IAF leadership, with

the assistance of CMATT trainers, Iraqi soldiers learn how to conduct several critical tasks and battle drills including how to react to direct fire and improvised explosive devices, close-quarter combat, tactical movements on patrols and weapons training. Basic discipline and effective physical training standards are also emphasized.

Maj. Mohammed Abed Yousif, commander of 2nd Company, 3rd Battalion, IAF, said that the training has given the Iraqi soldiers an advantage and has given them confidence in their abilities to perform as soldiers who will be responsible for the safety and security of this country in the coming weeks.

Our training gives us the opportunity to learn from the mistakes before they may happen when we are actually battling the terrorists," he said.

Maj. Robert Chandler Jr., CMATT Battalion Advisory Support Team Chief, said the soldiers are learning lessons and concepts that are foreign to them. Many have never been in the army, or served in the army years ago under the former regime.

"Now, they're learning how to do things more efficiently, as opposed to what I call the 'old doctrine,' where company commanders and officers ran the whole show," Chandler said. "All of the soldiers are learning a valuable lesson - that the officers make the decisions and the NCOs make it happen."

They are very enthusiastic about the training and eager to learn new and better ideas," said Capt. Dennis Swanson, a CMATT observer-controller overseeing the training curriculum. "Training is all they've been doing and they are improving every day, not only in discipline, but the noncommissioned officers are stepping up and training their fellow soldiers."

The 3rd Battalion soldiers will be conducting operations alongside Soldiers of the 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division (Stryker Brigade Combat Team) in the coming months. This training will aid in the transfer of responsibility as the Iraqi soldiers assume duties ensuring Iraq's security.

*Editor's note: Aaron Ritter is a staff writer for the Task Force Olympia Public Affairs Office.*



Photo by Spc. Aaron Ritter

**TAKING STANCE—** Staff Sgt. Russell Cotton, a member of the Coalition Military Assistance Training Team, helps an Iraqi soldier from 2nd Company, 3rd Battalion get the correct fighting stance during a close-quarter exercise at Tal Afar Castle.

## High-tech prosthetics keep Soldiers moving

By Spc. LORIE JEWELL  
 Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Advances in prosthetic technology are keeping Soldiers in the mainstream of life — and in some cases, on active duty — more than ever before, health care officials contend.

Soldiers benefiting from technological wonders like the Otto Bock microprocessor C-Leg knee unit or the myoelectric Utah 3 arm marvel not only at the existence of the devices, but that they are receiving such top-shelf products.

Spc. Sean Lewis, 20, for instance, knew very little about prosthetics just a few months ago.

"Lt. Dan from 'Forrest Gump,' that's about it," said Lewis, illustrating the extent of his knowledge with a reference to a movie character that lost both legs in the Vietnam War but who showed up toward the end of the movie using titanium alloy prosthetics the main character, Gump, called "magic legs."

A Jan. 21 mortar attack on an Army camp near Baqubah, Iraq changed that.

Lewis was a communications equipment repair specialist attached to the 588th Engineer Battalion, 2nd Brigade of the 4th Infantry Division from Fort Hood, Texas. It was early evening and he was standing next to his vehicle, talking and smoking with two friends — Spc. Gabriel Palacios and Pfc. James David Parker — when, without warning, a mortar round hit them.

From the ground, Lewis recalled looking up to see most of his right leg completely severed from his body. Palacios and Parker were dead.

Two months later, Lewis was standing on two feet — one natural and the other rubber, attached to an aluminum pylon straight-leg prosthetic — in Walter Reed Army Medical Center's Orthotics and Prosthetics laboratory.

"I loved it," Lewis said. "Even though I was using crutches, I felt like I was up on both legs again. The prosthetic helped with a lot of the phantom pain."

Lewis was fitted the following week with the latest high-tech prosthetic for lower extremity amputees, the C-Leg. Equipped with a microprocessor knee and hydraulic pneumatic controls, the leg brings patients like Lewis as close as they can be to a natural gait, said Ralph Urgolites, head of the Orthotics and Prosthetics lab.

Whereas a traditional prosthetic leg is swung forward using body weight, the C-Leg moves according to information it collects through computerized sensors that send feedback data 50 times per second between the foot and the knee.

"It's amazing what they can do now," Lewis said. "I've met with lots of people here and until they told me, I didn't even know they had a prosthetic on."

As of mid-March, Urgolites has counted 83 Soldiers — including at least one woman — who have come through the prosthetics lab since Operation Iraqi Freedom began. Several have also come from Afghanistan, where Soldiers continue to face danger while serving in Operation Enduring Freedom.

Of those, 19 Soldiers have lost upper extremity limbs, he noted. That's an unusually high percentage, Urgolites noted, compared to the national average

of 2.5 upper extremity cases for every 100 amputees.

The high volume of Soldiers in need of prosthetics forced the department to hire part-time help, increasing a normal staff of four or five prosthetists to seven or eight, depending on the need, Urgolites said. Twice, the need has been close to overwhelming — once in November and before that in August, when seven Soldiers with upper extremity amputations arrived at one time, he said.

"It's very rare to see more than two upper extremities at a time," Urgolites said.

One of the newest devices for such amputees is the computer-assisted myoelectric prosthetic. The Utah 3 arm allows the elbow and wrist to move simultaneously, while previous models were limited to separate movements, Urgolites said. The first six Utah 3 models off the production line went to Soldiers at Walter Reed following a round of tests last summer.

Sgt. Steve Clark, 36, is one of the six. He lost his right arm above the elbow in October when the Humvee he was gunning on a road outside of Baghdad was hit by a remote-controlled improvised explosive device. Like Lewis, Clark said he knew nothing about prosthetics before being injured. Not only is he impressed with the technology, but that Soldiers are getting it as well. With the cost of each prosthetic device ranging from \$20,000 to \$100,000, Clark is grateful the Army is investing so much into the care of Soldiers.

The hardest part about wearing the prosthetic, he said, is remembering to use it. His natural instinct is to take the fastest



Photo by Spc. Lorie Jewell

**PATIENT TREATMENT—** Prosthetist Dennis Clark tries to pinpoint the source of pain Spc. Sean Lewis experienced while trying on his first prosthetic leg. Lewis was injured in a Jan. 21 mortar attack in Iraq.

route to getting something done, which sometimes leaves the prosthetic idle. The more he takes the time to manage the Utah 3, the easier it gets, Clark said.

Clark was a multiple launch rocket system crewmember with the 127th Field Artillery from Babenhausen, Germany. He's planning to take a medical retirement and pursue a job as a resource counselor with the Veteran's Administration, working with Soldiers at Walter Reed.

## 'Band of Brothers' series features six Soldiers

Program airs in April on History Channel

By KARA MOTOSICKY  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The personal experiences of six Soldiers will be highlighted as part of the airing of the "Band of Brothers" mini-series on the History Channel.

The segments connect the Soldiers fighting for their country today to the men who fought with Easy Company during World War II.

The promotional segments will vary in length from one to 10 minutes. A half-hour preview program, now showing on the channel, caps the segments. The Soldiers will give lead-ins and recaps of most episodes in the series.

The program ties together the historical and modern Army by tracing a lasting set of values. The footage features Soldiers who have recently returned from Iraq and Afghanistan talking about their experiences serving overseas and what their Army service means to them. Their stories are paralleled with

those of the men of Company E, 506th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division.

Four of the featured Soldiers in the stories also are from the 101st Abn. Div. They are Pfc. Cameron Sharp, Sgt. 1st Class David Ainslie, 1st Sgt. Charles Haley and Capt. Kevin Williams.

Also featured is Spc. Richard A. Jacob of the 3rd Squadron, 7th U.S. Cavalry with the 3rd Infantry Division, the lead unit to enter Iraq; and Sgt. Josiah "Bret" Blalock of the 10th Mountain Division (Light Infantry), who participated in cave-clearing operations in Afghanistan.

"The Army is a bond ... it's a band of brothers," Williams said in one segment. "It just can't be recreated in any other situation. I'm very proud to be a part of the Army."

The "Band of Brothers" series will begin airing in April, during ongoing national welcome-home events, known as "Operation Tribute to Freedom," for Soldiers returning from overseas duties.

For information on when the program airs, visit the History Channel web site at [www.historychannel.com](http://www.historychannel.com).

# Transformation on track, Army leaders tell senators

By Spc. LORIE JEWELL  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Senior Army leaders gave emphatic assurances that efforts to transform the Army and properly equip the current force fighting in Iraq and Afghanistan are at top speed during their recent testimony to the Senate Armed Services' Subcommittee on Airland.

Sens. Jeff Sessions (R-Ala.) and Joseph Lieberman (D-Conn.) said that while they support the Army's transformation plans, they are concerned about the cost of developing future combat systems while concurrently restructuring and modernizing the current force.

"I am concerned that current operations will create resource challenges that can adversely affect transformation," Sessions said.

Claude Bolton Jr., assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology, said the money being spent on changing the current force into a future force is closely managed. Leaders are mindful of

the need to strike a balance between what they need for the future and current needs with available resources, Bolton said.

Bolton added that since he took his position three years ago, 30 programs have been cut.

"I think we've done that well, based upon feedback I've gotten from the Congress, industry and the Army," Bolton said. "And that is to put funds where we need it for the current force as well as the future force."

Army vice chief of staff Gen. George Casey acknowledged "the pendulum has swung" from the future back to the current, but stressed that Army leaders are planning and implementing change with minds focused on maintaining program stability for the future combat systems. He added that the Army fully intends to stick to its budget.

With all of the activity going on — 325,000 Soldiers deployed in 120 countries combined with the mobilization of more than 150,000

National Guard and Army Reserve Soldiers, Casey said it may not seem like the best time to undertake fundamental change across the Army.

"But we think it's just the opposite," Casey said. "It's an opportunity we can't pass up."

The Army is working toward three main goals, Casey said: reduce stresses on the force, improve capabilities and transform into a more versatile, agile, joint and expeditionary force in the current decade.

The major initiatives to make that happen, he added, are rebalancing the active and reserve component forces to improve strategic flexibility; reorganizing combat formations into modular brigade-based units to improve self-sufficiency and facilitate force packaging; and a force stabilization program to increase unit readiness, reduce personnel turbulence and make life more predictable for Soldiers, units and families.

"What we are doing now, we intend to set us up for the future force," Casey said.

# Headquarters & Alpha, 59th rule court but jury still out

## Troop volleyball starting season

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor  
skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

Headquarters & Alpha and HHC 59th are the early favorites entering the volleyball season.

Both advanced to the April 5 final in the preseason tournament with the season slated to begin next week.

"Everybody's doing good," 59th player-coach Hector Rivera said of his players after advancing from the losers' bracket. The 59th beat the Marines 12-25, 25-16, 15-5 in the losers' bracket final Thursday night at Pagano Gym.

The 59th began the night by eliminating MEDDAC 25-23, 25-17. But the "Raise up" bunch then dropped the first game against the Marines before winning the next two.

"We reorganized, moved the players around as necessary and it worked out for us," Rivera said.

"We were focused in the first (game), we just got more focused in the second

and third," hitter Mark Lewis said.

Headquarters & Alpha advanced to the tournament final by beating the Marines 21-25, 25-14, 15-12 on March 31. The Marines had a similar fate against the 59th.

"We came out doing good but we lost it," Marines player-coach Steven Hughes said after falling to the 59th. "I don't know what happened. It's early in the season so we've got a lot of practice we can put in. We've got a lot of improvements to make."

Here are the preseason results leading to the April 5 championship:

- March 29 — Marines def. MEDDAC 25-18, 25-21; Delta def. HHC 59th 25-14, 25-14; and Headquarters & Alpha def. Charlie 26-28, 25-17, 15-2.

- March 30 — Marines def. Bravo 25-23, 26-24; Headquarters & Alpha def. Delta 27-25, 25-22; and HHC 59th def. Charlie 25-12, 25-18.

- March 31 — MEDDAC def. Delta 26-24, 25-18; and HHC 59th def. Bravo 20-25, 25-12, 16-14.

- April 1 — HHC 59th def. MEDDAC 25-23, 25-17; and HHC 59th def. Marines 12-25, 25-16, 15-5.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**GAME POINT—** HHC 59th's Eddie Bryan (6) goes up against the Marines in a losers' bracket win Thursday night.

# Soldier-athletes strive to qualify for Olympic Games

By TIM HIPPS

Army News Service

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — While several Soldiers in the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program are in the thick of contention to make U.S. Olympic teams, many other All-Army athletes are busy competing in other arenas.

Sgt. 1st Class Bret Erickson, a member of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit at Fort Benning, Ga., is the latest Soldier to secure a berth in the Olympic Games at Athens, Greece.

A two-time Olympian who competed in 1992 at Barcelona, Spain, and 1996 in Atlanta, Erickson finished runner-up to fellow two-time Olympian Lance Bade of Colorado Springs, Colo., in men's trap shooting March 21 at the U.S. Olympic Shotgun Team Trials at Fort Benning.

One day later, Erickson won the double-trap competition, qualifying him for a second event in the Athens Games.

Maj. David Johnson, a WCAP member stationed at Fort Carson, Colo., will serve as rifle coach for Team USA in Greece. Likewise, Staff Sgt. Basheer Abdullah is head coach of the U.S. boxing team and Staff Sgt. Shon Lewis is one of three coaches for the U.S. Greco-Roman wrestlers. Abdullah will be assisted in Athens by former WCAP coach Anthony Bradley, a retired Army master sergeant.

U.S. Army Reserve Capt. Dan Browne, a former member of WCAP, finished third in the U.S. Olympic Marathon Trials in 2 hours, 12 minutes, 2 seconds at Birmingham, Ala., on Feb. 7 and will run for Team USA in Athens.

"I ran this race to make the team, but I also ran this race to honor my West Point classmates who died over in Iraq," said Browne, who trains in Portland, Ore. "That kept me going with three miles to go when my body was feeling pretty rough. I thought of them and I knew I wouldn't quit."

Spc. Tina George, a WCAP wrestler from Cleveland Heights, Ohio, won a silver medal in the 55-kilogram division of the Athens Women's Wrestling Tournament Jan. 25 in Greece, where she aspires to compete for Team USA in the Summer Olympics.

George also went 5-0 and defeated former world champion Jen Ryz of Canada, 3-1, to win her weight class in the Dave Schultz Memorial International Wrestling Championships Feb. 7-8 at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colo.

Staff Sgt. Glenn Nieradka and Spc. Faruk Sahin won Greco-Roman gold medals. It was Sahin's first tournament as a U.S. citizen. Staff Sgt. Keith Sieracki and Sgt. Dremiel Byers settled for silver, and Sgt. Oscar Wood won a bronze medal.

Byers, the 2002 Greco-Roman super heavyweight world champion and Army Male Athlete of the Year, lost a 2-1 referee's decision in overtime to Rulon Gardner, 2001 world champ and America's darling of the 2000 Summer Olympics. All three points were scored off the clinch position.

Byers and Gardner, who often train together, are expected to battle for a spot on Team USA through the U.S. National Wrestling Championships April 7-10 at Las Vegas and the U.S. Olympic Wrestling Team Trials May 21-23 at Indianapolis.



Photo by Tim Hipps

**HOT PURSUIT—** Sgt. Sandu Rebenciuc, a member of the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program, competes in the steeplechase in the 2003 USA Outdoor Track & Field Championships at Palo Alto, Calif. Rebenciuc recently won the 4-kilometer race in the 2004 Armed Forces Cross Country Championships at Indianapolis.

Sieracki competed in the final Olympic qualifying wrestling tournament March 13-14 at Tashkent, Uzbekistan, where he failed to qualify the United States for a spot in the 74-kilogram/163-pound Greco-Roman division of the Olympics. Sieracki lost his second match of the tournament and said he likely will move up a weight class for the Olympic Team Trials.

Spc. Clarence Joseph and Spc. Edward Joseph advanced to the 2004 U.S. Olympic Box-Offs Feb. 27-28 at Cleveland's Convocation Center, where both were eliminated from the road to Athens. Clarence, 21, won the challengers' bracket of the 165-pound division in the U.S. Olympic Boxing Team Trials at Tunica, Miss., where Edward, 24, was among four boxers remaining in the 152-pound class, which had to be completed in Cleveland because of an administrative fiasco.

In the Box-Offs at Cleveland, Clarence dropped a 30-9 decision to Andre Dirrell

of Flint, Mich., and Edward was eliminated, 27-8, by Austin Trout of Las Cruces, N.M.

Sgt. Casey McEuin and Sgt. Petra Kauw won gold medals in the Taekwondo U.S. Open Championships Feb. 20-21 at Tampa, Fla. Sgt. Elena Pisarenko won a silver medal and Sgt. Darrell Rydholm and Sgt. Luis Torres won bronze medals.

Sgt. John Nunn won the mile walk in 6:03.37 in the Millrose Games Feb. 5 at Madison Square Garden in New York. Capt. Michael Mai won the weight throw with a personal-best heave of 74 feet. Nunn also won the Long Island 3-K Race Walk Championship in 12:05 on Feb. 6 and placed second with a time of 19:35:58 in the 5,000-meter race walk at the USA Indoor Track and Field Championships Feb. 28 at Boston.

Four soldiers earned victories in the Don Barrett Air Force Open Track Meet Feb. 21 at Colorado Springs. Spc. Milton Mallard won the 200 meters in 20.87 sec-

onds and the 60 meters in 6.76 seconds.

Spc. Lakeisha Backus won the women's 60 meters in 7.28 seconds. Spc. Mike Miller took the 800 meters in 1:54.10, and Spc. Greg Roberts claimed the high jump at 7 feet.

Backus also finished second in the 60-meter dash in the Leonard Milton Memorial Track Meet Jan. 23 at Houston and third with a personal-best time of 7.18 seconds in the USA Indoor Track and Field Championships.

Miller won the 1,500 meters in the Oregon Preview track and field meet March 20 at Eugene, Ore., with a time of 3:41.96, qualifying him for the U.S. Track & Field Olympic Team Trials July 9-18 at Sacramento, Calif.

Sgt. Sandu Rebenciuc won the 2004 Armed Forces Cross Country Championships 4-kilometer race in 11:28:08 at Indianapolis, where Capt. Ryan Kirkpatrick finished second in 11:48.18 on a thick blanket of snow. The next day, Kirkpatrick won the 12-K Armed Forces race in 36:17. Spc. Christopher England finished seventh in 39:42 and Spc. Joshua Butts was 10th in 40:26.

Spc. Sara Day led Army women by finishing fourth in the Armed Forces 8-K race in 31:32. First Lt. Emily Brozowski was fifth in 31:33, and Maj. Jacqueline Chen finished 10th in 33:12. Air Force won the team competition, followed by Army, Marine Corps and Navy.

The Armed Forces Championships were contested Feb. 7-8 in conjunction with the USA Cross Country Championships and World Cross Country Team Trials, which Rebenciuc finished seventh. He earned an alternate spot on Team USA for the International Association of Athletics Federations World Cross Country Championships at Brussels, Belgium.

Rebenciuc was the third American finisher in the 4,000-meter race at Brussels, where he placed 46th in the world with a 12:23 clocking.

Capt. Anita Allen, the first Soldier to qualify for the Athens Games, 1st Lt. Chad Senior, Sgt. Scott Christie, Spc. Mickey Kelly and 1st Lt. Niul Manske recently competed in Modern Pentathlon World Cup stops at Queretaro, Mexico, and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

At Mexico, Senior finished 10th, Allen 20th and Christie 26th. At Rio de Janeiro, Senior was fourth, Kelly 17th, Christie 21st, and Allen 22nd.

Allen was also named Female Athlete of the Year by the U.S. Modern Pentathlon Association.

Spc. Jeremy Teela and Spc. Jill Krause, both members of the Vermont National Guard, were selected as Athletes of the Year by the U.S. Biathlon Association. Teela posted the top U.S. finish of 31st in the 15-K cross country race in the 2004 CISM World Military Ski Championships March 18 at Ostersund, Sweden.

In snowboarding, Pfc. Ryan McDonald finished second in parallel giant slalom at the U.S. Alpine Finals March 20-21 at Breckenridge, Colo.

Spc. Steve Holcomb, with a civilian crew aboard, piloted USA 2 to a silver medal Jan. 18 in the four-man Europa Cup bobsled race at St. Moritz, Switzerland.

*Editor's note: Tim Hipps writes for the Army Community and Family Support Center Public Affairs Office.*



**Sports & Recreation**

**5K fund-raiser**

The RAM Engineering and Test Division of the Engineering Directorate will hold the third annual RDEC 5K Run and Fun Walk, May 11 at 9:30 a.m. at the physical training track off Corporal Road, to benefit Army Emergency Relief. Military, civilian, contract employees and their family members are welcome. Registration deadline is May 4; and the entry fee is \$15 which includes a T-shirt and race day refreshments. Rain date for the event is May 13. To register, e-mail carolyn.a.farmer@us.army.mil. "Redstone Federal Credit Union has offered to match our donation up to \$1,000," Carolyn Farmer said. "So if we, the RAM Engineering and Test Division of the Engineering Directorate, can raise \$1,000, RFCU will donate another \$1,000, giving us a potential \$2,000, more if we can get additional participation."

**Boating safety**

The Coast Guard Auxiliary will have boating safety classes Thursday through May 20 in building 3305, Stillwell Hall on Zeus Drive, room 215. There is a \$22 charge for the class text binder that is provided to all students. For more information, call Tom Kunhart 885-7096 or 830-6621.

**Youth competition**

Child and Youth Services is beginning a "Cup Stacking" team for youth ages 5-18 whose parents are military, DoD, Army, NASA and contractor employees, beginning April 13. The club will meet every Tuesday from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at School Age Services, building 3400 on Gray Road. Cost is \$20, which includes T-shirt, cups, awards and competition speed-cup stacking. Register at building 1500, Weeden Mountain Road, or call 876-3704 for more information.



**Conferences & Meetings**

**Toastmasters**

Toastmasters can help improve your communication and leadership skills by conducting meetings, giving prepared speeches or briefings, giving impromptu speeches and offering constructive evaluations.

This is an approved government training opportunity. A form DD-1556 is all you need to sign up to start earning your Continuous Learning Points. To find a club near you, go to <http://www.toastmasters.org/find/>. If you have trouble contacting a particular club, contact Chad Daly at [Chad.Daly@smdc.army.mil](mailto:Chad.Daly@smdc.army.mil) or Toastmasters International at [tminfo@toastmasters.org](mailto:tminfo@toastmasters.org).

**General services expo**

General Services Administration's Southeast Sunbelt Region invites you to Orlando, Fla., May 11-13 to experience Expo 2004. Admission is free to all civilian and military personnel. Attend more than 250 hours of professional procurement-oriented training, with CEU credit. Visit more than 700 commercial partners, across 300,000 square feet, exhibiting their products and services — all available through GSA schedules. GSA is offering free meeting rooms to federal activities as part of the expo May 10, 11 and 13, 2004. For details check the web site <http://expo.gsa.gov> or call 1-888-272-5565. To schedule a meeting, contact Barbara Petersen at [Barbara.Petersen@gsa.gov](mailto:Barbara.Petersen@gsa.gov).

**Labor law symposium**

The North Alabama Chapter of the Federal Bar Association presents its second annual Personnel/Labor Law Symposium on April 14 at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel. Speakers include Merit Systems Protection Board administrative judges, an Equal Employment Opportunity Commission administrative judge, an assistant U.S. attorney, an attorney from Maxwell Air Force Base and a local practitioner. Application for six hours of Alabama and Tennessee Continuing Legal Education credit has been made. Managers, employees, human resource professionals, union officials and attorneys are the focus audience. For more information, call 544-0024.

**Alcorn State alumni**

The Tennessee Valley Alumni Chapter of Alcorn State University will meet April 13 at 6:30 p.m. at the Richard Showers Center, Blue Springs Road. All Alcorn alumni and friends are welcome. For more information, call Melvin Mayo 876-1731.

**Community town hall**

The Garrison will hold a Community Town Hall Meeting at 6 p.m. April 13 at

the Diane Campbell Recreation Center, building 3711 (Aerobee and Patton Roads). All residents, retirees and employees are invited. Community Town Hall meetings are intended to provide information and feedback on community developments. Members of the Team Redstone staff will be on hand to answer questions or concerns from the community. For more information, call Ivy Downs 876-3376.

**Retired employees**

The National Association of Retired Federal Employees will meet Saturday at the Senior Center on Drake Avenue. Scheduled speaker is Bill Boulton of the Land Trust of Huntsville and North Alabama. Refreshments start at 9:30 a.m. and the program at 10. For information call 881-4944 or 882-2406.

**Enlisted spouses**

The Enlisted Spouses Club members invite you to their meeting Thursday night at 6:30 p.m. at the Challenger Activity Center, building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road, to plan upcoming events. They meet to have fun, help the community with bingo, scholarships, volunteering and fund-raising. New members are welcome. For more information, call Jean Mulcahy 881-7024.



**Miscellaneous**

**Reserve unit openings**

A local Army Reserve detachment doing weekend drills on Redstone Arsenal has openings for computer specialists. The unit seeks prior active duty Soldiers or transfers from other Reserve/National Guard units with a specialty of 25B/74B information systems operators and 75B/H unit administration. For 74B, the unit will consider reclassification action to 25B if you can document with resume your Civilian Acquired Skills to include your education/experience in the following computer skills: data base management, programming, networking and telecommunications. Minimum of a secret clearance is required. And you must possess the personal qualifications to pass a SBI background investigation process to obtain a top secret clearance soon. Specialties 74C and 74F are now authorized to convert to 74B as well. For specialty 74C or 74F, they are now authorized to convert to 75B as well. For an interview, 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 Eddie Allen 876-4106

or Gleria Edwards 313-3867. Contractors and other interested people can access [www.cpol.army.mil](http://www.cpol.army.mil) for openings and opportunities for overseas employment.

**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](mailto:TLRooop@charter.net).

**Warrant officer scholarships**

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter of the Warrant Officer Association will present two \$1,000 scholarship awards in 2004. Eligible participants include dependent or adopted children/stepchildren of military (active, retired, National Guard or Reserve) and DoD civilian residing in the Tennessee Valley. Applicants must be high school seniors or college freshmen. Deadline to apply is May 1. To download a packet and application form, go to [www.redstonewarrants.com](http://www.redstonewarrants.com).

**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 Friday 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.

**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.gsauctions.gov](http://www.gsauctions.gov). For more information, call 544-4667.

**Thrift shop**

The Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping Tuesday 9-5 and Wednesday and Thursday 9-4. Walk-in consignment hours are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 9-12:30. Appointments are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays 12:30-3. The shop is now accepting spring/summer clothing and items. Donations are accepted, and tax slips are available. For more information, call 881-6992.

**Bookkeeper job**

The Thrift Shop has a bookkeeper position. Salary is \$4,200 annually for approximately 10-hour weeks. Applicants must

know the Quick Books financial program and be proficient with bookkeeping procedures. Applications can be picked up during business hours at the Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road. For information call Isabel Boicourt 881-6992.

### Redstone motorcycle training

Experienced Riders Motorcycle Training is conducted at the Rocket Harley-Davidson Dealership off I-565 and Greenbrier Road. Soldiers, DoD civilians and military retirees are funded by the government. Contractors pay \$75 per person. For registration information, call Keith Coates 876-3383 or John Zuber 876-3114 of the Garrison Safety Office.

### Continuing education

Oakwood College's Leadership Education for the Adult Professional bachelor's degree classes will begin this spring at Redstone Arsenal. Pre-register from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. April 19-22 at the Education Center, building 3222 on Snooper Road. Earn your degree in 18 months. For more information, call 876-9761.

### Contractor open house

The Joint Venture Yulista and Science and Engineering Services announces an Open House for any potential subcontractors interested in providing engineering or technical support to the Prototype Integration Facility. JYVS has an existing contract to provide support, but additional subcontractor support may be required in the future. The open house will be at the Science and Engineering Services office, 4015 Pulaski Pike, on April 14 from 8 a.m. to noon. Potential subcontractors should bring any brochures or information that describes their capabilities. For more information, call Darrell Harrison 876-5099.

### Panoply volunteers

The Army Society of Military Comptrollers, Redstone/Huntsville Chapter, Community Projects Committee is supporting Panoply 2004 by providing volunteers to help with this community arts festival April 23-25 in Big Spring Park. Volunteers are needed in various areas such as helping in the children's activities, selling Buffalo Rock-Pepsi products, selling Panoply novelty items in one of the Panoply Stores, or welcoming the many visitors to the park at one of the entrance gates. The public hours for Panoply are April 23 from 5-10 p.m., April 24 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and April 25 from noon to 8 p.m. The shifts for volunteers are two hours long with many time slots still available. For more information or to volunteer call Eura Reaves, co-chairman of ASMC Community Projects Committee, 955-8222.

### Book sale

The Command Analysis Directorate's annual book sale for Army Emergency Relief is April 19-23 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Sparkman Center building 5300, in the first-floor corridor between 5303 and 5304. Donations of books, books-on-tape, CDs, DVDs and videotape will be accepted until April 20. To arrange delivery and pickup of donated items, call

Brian Barry 876-5743.

### Living last supper

The entire community of Redstone Arsenal and Huntsville is invited to "The Living Last Supper, a Service of Remembrance" tonight at 7 at Bicentennial Chapel. This dramatization of Leonardo Da Vinci's painting of "The Last Supper" is a free event which will last about an hour. Entrance to Redstone for this event must be made through Gates 1, 9 or 10. Due to security measures, if you are not a government ID card holder you may be escorted by an ID card holder. The roles for the reenactment will be played by members of the chapel's Protestant congregation. The performance will be directed by Ann Yeager, choir director for the congregation. There will be a picture session after the performance.

### Casualty assistance

The Military Personnel Division will conduct annual training for casualty notification and casualty assistance officers. Senior NCOs (E-7 through E-9) and company (captains) and field grade officers (O-3 through O-6) are required to attend. The sessions are 8-9 a.m. April 8, 15 and 22 at Toftoy Hall, room 119. For information call Charles Ham, chief of strength management and personnel operations, 842-2417.

### School grants

The Huntsville Association of Technical Societies has issued a call for proposals for its 2004-05 seed grants. Grants are awarded to K-12 schools in Madison, Marshall, Morgan and Limestone counties. For the past 16 years, HATS has awarded seed grants ranging from \$200 to \$1,000 for innovative projects that help promote student interest in scientific and technical subjects. More than \$17,000 was awarded to 19 teachers in 2003. May 3 is the proposals deadline. For more information, call 882-1234.

### Military personnel office

The DEERS/Rapids office will go through an equipment/software upgrade May 17-18; and the ID Card section is closed both days. There will be no Defense Eligibility Enrollment Reporting System or identification card services available. For more information, call Theodore Tyson of Military Personnel Office 842-2415.

### 95th change of command

Capt. James Coe will succeed Capt. Jason Mackay as commander of 95th Maintenance Company in a ceremony April 16 at 9 a.m. at Test Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment Activity, building 5435. For more information, call 842-7706.

### Easter Sunday brunch

The Officers and Civilians Club will hold an Easter Sunday Brunch from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 11. The entire Redstone community is invited to this brunch buffet. Tickets are \$17.95 for adults, \$7.95 for children age 7-12; and children 6 and under eat free. Call 830-CLUB for reservations.

### Butler High reunion

Butler High School Class of 1969 will

hold its 35th reunion June 19 at the Clay House Museum, 16 Main St., Madison. Class members are urged to call Glenda Swafford Anderson 837-9789 or Robin Hall Brewer (256) 325-1018.

### Fox Army Health Center

The Physical Therapy Clinic at Fox Army Health Center will move to the second floor to offer expanded services to its beneficiaries. This move will allow for more exercise equipment and available space for patient encounters. Due to this move, Physical Therapy will be closed Friday and will resume normal business hours April 12 from 6:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

### Barbershop quartet night

You are invited to Southern Splendor Guest Night where you can sing barbershop songs in four-part harmony, share a meal, and learn the barbershop singing hobby. The music and leadership will be provided along with the food at 7 p.m. Thursday at 507 S. Hoffman St. in Athens. Visit the web site at [www.southern-splendor.org](http://www.southern-splendor.org).

### Father of year

The Volunteer Center of Madison County will hold its second "Father of the Year" Gala June 25 at the Huntsville Museum of Art. The evening will include announcement of the 2004 Father of the Year, dancing to the music of The Blue Savoy Combo, wine/beer with heavy hors d'oeuvres, and silent auction. Spouses, children, friends or co-workers may make nominations. Nominees must reside or work within Madison County and may include "father figures" who have made a significant impact on a child's life. Each will be reviewed by a panel of judges for the qualities that make individuals outstanding fathers. Nominations for Father of the Year will be accepted until April 15. Forms and more information are available by calling the Volunteer Center 539-7797 and from the Volunteer Center web site: [www.volunteerhsv.org](http://www.volunteerhsv.org).

### Administrative professionals

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter of the International Association of Administrative Professionals will hold a free training session May 4 from 8-11 a.m. in building 5400, SELA Auditorium. Registration is from 7-8 for the course on "Projecting a Professional Image." Attendees are reminded that building 5400 is a restricted area and no cell phones are allowed in the building. For more information call Myria Chastain 313-8158 or 876-2024 or Julie Manning 313-6745 by April 27.

### Masquerade ball

The Janice Mitchell Isbell Academy will

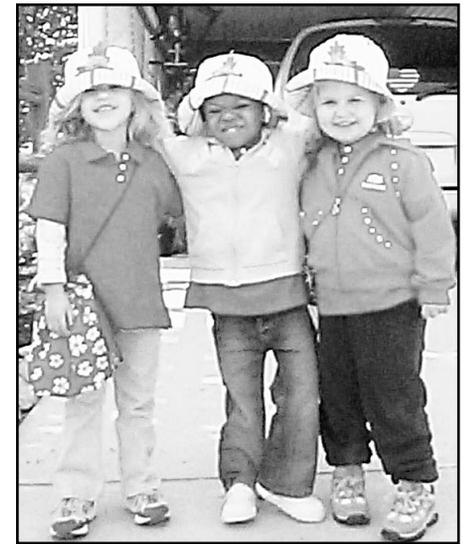


Photo by Denise Jones

## Parade ready

On their way to the Month of the Military Child parade, April 1 at Child Development Center, are from left 4-year-olds Deanna Vaughn, Anyiah McCrimmon and Shandi Burrows.

hold its third annual Masquerade Ball "Mardi Gras in May" at 7:30 p.m. May 1 at Holiday Inn Research Park (at the Madison Square Mall). The tickets are \$25 for adults and \$15 for college students. For more information, call the school 746-9206 or Janice Isbell 313-4216.

### Society scholarships

Redstone Chapter of the American Helicopter Society offers a college upperclassmen and graduate student scholarship. There are two \$2,000 awards for 2004-05. Applications are due by April 23. For more information, call Steve Parker 722-1039.

### Children's block party

Child & Youth Services invites you to the Month of the Military Child "Block Party," April 24 from 1-4 p.m. at the Youth Center, building 3148 on Goss Road. For information go to [www.redstonemwr](http://www.redstonemwr).

### Post Exchange news

The Spring Sidewalk Plant Sale is Friday and Saturday. Register to win a \$50 plant shopping spree to be given away Saturday at 4 p.m. The exchange's Vitamix Total Nutrition Demonstration is April 30 through May 9. A Vitamix representative will be on hand to show you the value of healthy food preparation. Register to win a \$50 gift card while at the demonstration.

