

Redstone Rocket

VOL. 54 No. 16

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April 20, 2005

Helping hands

Post volunteers
honored for year

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seeks actors

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Win or lose



Unit volleyball makes return

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Thumbs up for Avenger gun-up

*Air defense vehicles
modified for unit*

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

An Army unit preparing to deploy knew its Avenger air defense vehicles weren't built for ground combat in Iraq. So the Soldiers asked for help.

The Cruise Missile Defense Systems Project Office and prime contractor Boeing delivered.

They sent a six-man team to Kuwait and modified eight Avenger vehicles for the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, Air Defense Artillery Battery which had deployed from Fort Carson, Colo. A modification job expected to take two weeks

only took two days, thanks to the team members' long hours and diligence.

"There was a lot of behind-the-scenes effort going on both here in the project office and at Boeing to make this happen in such a short period of time," test engineer Harry Lockwood of CMDS Project Office said. He was on the team along with Boeing workers Jerry Wilson, Steve Milly, Harry Chandler and John Lose; and Jeff King of CAS Inc.

King was already in Kuwait supporting an Integrated Materiel Management Center mission; and Lockwood asked him to stay for this Avenger gun-up effort. Wilson and Lockwood arrived at Camp Buehring in Kuwait on March 9; and the others got there March 15.

An M3P 50-caliber machine gun is mounted on an Avenger vehicle but normally Soldiers can't fire it toward the

vehicle's front at an elevation less than 10 degrees. The team members changed that for the unit.

"We removed the right missile pod and we moved the M3P gun system up to the missile pod's position," Lockwood said. "This now allows 360 degrees firing at any angle or elevation. We also increased the magazine capacity from 250 rounds to 600 rounds.

"The biggest reason why this was important to them is their mission over there is not an air defense mission. Their mission is for ground support and convoy escort."

Boeing had developed the modification concept. The project office received an urgent needs statement from the unit because its ground defense mission required

See Avenger on page 5



Photo by Harry Lockwood

READY FOR ACTION— Soldiers of the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, Air Defense Artillery Battery get ready to move out with their Avenger vehicles modified for ground support in Iraq.

An open lane random survey

Why do you think it is important to do tornado drills?

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

*Pvt. Derek Thompson
Charlie Company*
"I live in Dallas, Texas. I've seen the devastation that a tornado brings to a community and the people who live there."



*Martha Welch
retiree*
"I want to live. You should practice and be prepared."

*Katherine Shaw
military spouse*

"You need to have a family plan. It's much safer when you know what to expect if a tornado does come."



*Deanna Scott
military spouse*
"It won't be as chaotic when it actually is time to take cover from a tornado. Lots of people won't get hurt because they'll know where to go."

Quote of the week

'Never trouble another for what you can do for yourself.'

— *Thomas Jefferson*

Protect children against abuse

Army's theme for Child Abuse Prevention Month is "Protecting All Our Children, All the Time."

All our children, from birth to 18 years of age, fall under the protection of federal and state laws against abuse and neglect. These laws, along with military regulations, apply equally to infants and adolescents. They apply to children with disabilities and children without disabilities. In other words, all our children.

To be safe from abuse and neglect, our children need everyday heroes. Their first heroes are — or always should be — their parents.

Beyond that we also depend on their grandparents and other family members. And as they get older, we depend on neighbors, caregivers, teachers, coaches and youth program leaders. At Redstone Arsenal we have many resources to protect and support children, teens and their families. Call the Family Advocacy Program (at Army Community Service 876-5397) if you have concerns about a child or a family and want to help. Be an everyday hero.

Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury
Commander, AMCOM
and Redstone

Profile of values and principles

Ifelt a bit perturbed by Mr. Ajjuri's dissertation about the Muslim beliefs (April 13 letter to editor). There are good people in every walk of life but there are also some very bad ones who manage to deceive others. Mr. Ajjuri appears to be singing praises to the Muslims and striving to discount all that has been shown as fact. He mentioned their "rights." Well, I feel that there are a number of people demanding certain things as their "right" and this is just an assumption on their part.

A few weeks ago the Dell Corporation in Nashville was being sued because they were denying the Muslims their "prayer" time. The Muslims apparently feel they are to be allowed to take time from their work five times a day to gather for prayer. The Christians have been denied the right to pray even once in the workplace, schools or even at a ball game — when did this imbalance occur? America was founded on Christian values and principles. It doesn't matter that there are 7 million Muslims in America, this is still America and it is still, barely, a Christian country.

There are certain things that we must not ever forget — the Muslim bombing of PanAm Flight 103. The Muslim bombing of the World Trade Center in 1993. The Muslim bombing of the Marine barracks in

Lebanon. The Muslim bombing of the American Embassies in Africa. The Muslim bombing of the USS Cole. The Muslim attack on the Twin Towers and the Pentagon on 9/11/01. Thousands of lives of all nationalities were lost in these senseless killings.

We are told that we are not to "profile." Well, I feel it is a dangerous game when we are discouraged in striving to identify our enemy. The Muslim Brotherhood was founded in 1928 and banned in Egypt in 1954. Islamic extremists have formed " sleeper cells" all over the world. All followers of Allah have been commanded to kill everyone who is not of their faith (infidels) — this is a quote from a Islamic Imam at a training session for "Prison Ministry."

I believe in being kind to everyone but if I see a vicious lion coming down the street toward me, I am not going to wait until he has eaten part of my body before I determine him as dangerous. I would definitely "profile" and determine the need to defend myself. Trust can be foolish if you refuse to look at facts and past history. Allowing the "politically correct" mentality to prevail has just about destroyed our society. I still say "God Bless America" and He will if we seek His will.

Sarah Bryan

E-5 promotion policy clarified by director

There has been much discussion recently regarding Automatic List Integration for promotion to sergeant. I would like to take the opportunity to clear up some misconceptions.

This new policy does not result in automatic promotions nor does it change Army Standards for promotion. Commanders have the responsibility to deny list integration if the Soldier is not trained, or is otherwise unqualified in accordance with the standards outlined in Chapter 3 of the Army Regulation 600-3-19, Enlisted Promotions and Reductions. Unit leadership is still an integral part of the promotion process. The commander makes the final decision on whether the Soldier is ready for increased leadership responsibility. Experience shows that commanders are taking an active role to ensure the quality of the Army's noncommissioned officer corps.

With increased operational requirements due to the Global War on Terrorism, the Army has been struggling with getting otherwise fully eligible Soldiers boarded. Ten years ago, the Army maintained 30 percent of all eligible specialists/E-4s in a promotable status. Today the number has fallen to around 10 percent. This downward trend in promotable Soldiers and the increasing promotion requirements have resulted in an increasing number of NCO shortages.

The Soldiers being integrated have at least four years in service and, in many cases two years time in grade, are likely combat veterans and most have reenlisted. These Soldiers are fully qualified for promotion to sergeant. Promotions from this population will only occur in Military Occupational Specialties when the operating strength falls below 100 percent and after all other eligible boarded Soldiers have been selected. Also keep in mind when we are short sergeants in an MOS, someone, a qualified specialist, is stepping up and doing the sergeant's work, so why not promote and pay them for the job they are doing?

The Army has implemented this policy to ensure a viable population of promotable Soldiers exists in order to meet the increasing demand for NCOs. With only one month of list integrated promotions realized, the number of MOS below 100 percent strength at sergeant decreased by 20 percent and the number of unrealized promotions due to a lack of boarded Soldiers has been cut in half. At the same time, commanders are making the tough calls to ensure quality is maintained.

Brig. Gen. Howard B. Bromberg
director, Enlisted Personnel
Management Division,
Human Resources Command

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Getting to know you

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

Name: Bill Bullen

Job: Business manager, Post Restaurant Fund

Where do you call home?
Decatur, Ala.

What do you like about your job?

I really like the hours because in most restaurant jobs you have to work weekends. I like meeting different, interesting people both as customers and as employees.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I like to grill out on my patio with my family and friends. I like to fish and hunt. I travel about four or five times a year with a competition barbecue team. We have fun doing that.



What are your goals?

My goals now are probably to retire while I'm still in good health, and just try to improve to be a better person.

Trees leave lasting legacy for upcoming generations

Arbor Day celebrated with events Friday

By JESSE HORTON
Redstone forester

One day after celebrating Earth Day 2005, Redstone Arsenal will celebrate Arbor Day 2005 on Friday at 10 a.m. in front of the new Redstone Visitor Center (building 4122), near Gate 9.

Garrison commander Col. Bob Devlin will proclaim the day as Arbor Day 2005. During this 13th annual event, a tree will be planted in recognition of the special day.

Huntsville Mayor Loretta Spencer, Smokey the Bear and a representative from the Alabama Forestry Commission will attend. Preschool children from the Child Development Center will provide the Arbor Day entertainment in song.

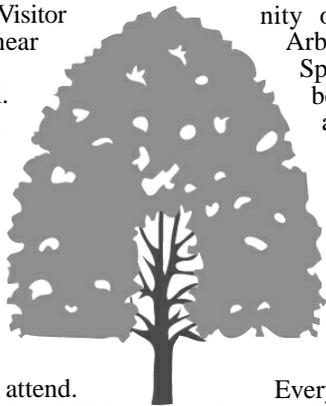
Redstone's commitment toward education and practices of planting, protecting and caring for trees for the future supports the ideals of Arbor Day. This annual commitment is reflected in Redstone's receipt of special national recognition as a "Tree

City USA" from the National Arbor Day Foundation, in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters.

There will be a limited number of cherrybark oak, tulip poplar and black walnut tree seedlings available at no cost at the conclusion of the celebration.

Around noon Friday, Devlin will join hands with the surrounding community of Huntsville to celebrate Arbor Day at Huntsville's Big Spring Park, in front of the bell tower. Devlin, Spencer and members of the Huntsville Tree Commission will speak and sign a joint proclamation declaring the day as Arbor Day to signify their rededication to helping the environment by protecting and planting trees, shrubs and other plants.

Everyone is encouraged to take time out from their busy schedule Friday and join us in celebrating Arbor Day at Gate 9 and at Big Spring Park. If your schedule won't permit your attendance, then make plans to plant and maintain a tree this planting season. After all, planted trees, wherever planted, are a source of joy and spiritual renewal for you and future generations.



Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

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

April 8: Huntsville Police reported that they arrested an individual for manufacture of methamphetamines. The individual was later determined to be a deserter from the Army.

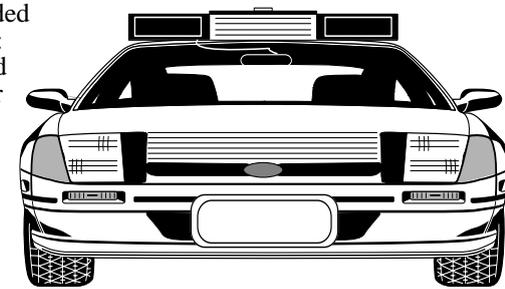
April 8: An individual reported that a track hoe had broken a power pole when the boom accidentally caught the power lines.

April 10: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license when he was stopped for an illegal lane change. He was issued a violation notice and an armed forces traffic ticket and released.

April 11: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license during an inspection at Gate 9. The individual also had an outstanding arrest warrant. He was issued a violation notice and released to Huntsville Police Department.

April 12: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license during a vehicle inspection at Gate 10. The individual was issued a violation notice and released.

April 12: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license during a vehicle inspection at Gate 9. The individual was issued a violation notice and released.



April 12: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a canceled driver's license during a vehicle inspection at Gate 10. The individual was issued a violation notice and released.

April 13: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license during a vehicle inspection at Gate 9. The individual was issued a violation notice and released.

April 13: An individual was apprehended by Huntsville police and later determined to be a deserter from the Army.

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

Violation notices issued: 12 speeding, 2 parked in a handicapped parking space, 1 parked in a no parking zone, 7 driving with a suspended/revoked license, 2 failure to obey traffic control device, 1 illegal lane change.

New lanes to open on Martin Road

The traffic on Martin Road between Patton Road and Gate 1 will be moved to the new roadway Thursday.

This will allow the contractor to remove the two old bridges and construct new bridges along with raising the old road to the level of the new road and repave old roadway. When completed this will be an end to

reversing Martin Road traffic flow for morning and afternoon rush hours. This practice has been in effect since the roadway was constructed in 1962-63.

The project is scheduled to be completed in the fall.

Proper signs and marking will be in place to channel traffic onto the new roadway. (Garrison release)

Volunteer nominees include Thrift Shop regular



Dorothy Moore/Photo Lab
Mary McCarthy

McCarthy has donated time for more than two decades

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

It didn't take long for Mary McCarthy to get settled in her new community 21 years ago.

She and since-retired Lt. Col. Daniel McCarthy brought their family from Hawaii in July 1983; and she started volunteering in January 1984.

McCarthy has contributed her time in the community ever since.

She is among 23 nominees for 2005 Volunteer of the Year awards. The 14 winners will be announced at the 21st annual Volunteer Recognition and Awards Luncheon at 11 a.m. Thursday at the Officers and Civilians Club.

"I feel very honored," said McCarthy, nominated by the Thrift Shop. "We have wonderful volunteers."

She serves on the consignment shop's

board of governors and as the welfare chairman. McCarthy has volunteered at the shop for 21 years. She also does volunteer work at the Good Shepherd Catholic Church and elsewhere in her neighborhood in southeast Huntsville. Her past service includes the Red Cross at Fox Army Health Center.

"My primary interest is to help the military family," she said, "and I've been doing this for 21 years."

The New York City native and her husband have three daughters — Lisa Humke of Zionsville, Ind., Kerry Cleary of Birmingham and Claudia McCarthy of Huntsville — and a son, Dan McCarthy of Nashville.

Larry Leggett, quality of life manager at Army Community Service, coordinates the recognition luncheon during National Volunteer Week, April 17-23, with this year's theme "Inspire by Example."

"They save the community money that will otherwise be performed by the work force," he said. "The average volunteer saves the military about \$16.54 per hour."

The other volunteer nominees include Loyd Ackerman III, Gail Askew, Liz

Blackmon, retired Capt. Albert Castelli, Michelle deGroot, Robin Elliott, Tyler Freeman, Marie Handley, Janeshia Henderson, Ed Ingold, Wendy Lebischak, Octavia March, Olivia March, Amanda Medley, Jean Mulcahy, Rick Phillips, Sharon Samuelson, Thomas Sharp, Judy Storie, Karen Thompson, Jasika Williams and Summer Wilson.

Winners will be announced in the following categories: Redstone Arsenal School Age Service Young Leader, Redstone Arsenal Middle School Young Leader, Redstone Arsenal Teen Young Leader, Redstone Arsenal Service to Youth Volunteer Award, Redstone Arsenal Dedicated Service to Youth, Redstone Arsenal Special Event Volunteer, Redstone Arsenal New Volunteer, Redstone Arsenal Active Service Volunteer, Redstone Arsenal Community Service, Redstone Arsenal Community Dedicated Service, Redstone Arsenal Community Lifetime Service Award, Military Community Service, Military Community Dedicated Service and Military Community Lifetime Service Award.

AER fund-raisers set through May

The Army Emergency Relief campaign continues through May 15. Fund-raising events include the following:

- Fancy scented candles, through May 15, at Sparkman building 5302, second floor. Call Teri Benson 842-7717.

- Teddy bear and magnetic ribbon sale, through May 15, sponsored by Engineering Directorate. Call Janet Martin 313-1996.

- Ice cream social, May 11 from 10:30 a.m. to noon, in the building 5300 hallway. Call Amos Richardson 955-9395 or Danny Berger 955-6193.

- Friendly folks personalized cartoons, through May 15, at building 5302, third floor. Call Pat Reilly 876-0209 or Sandra Swartz 842-6772.

- Online auction, through May 15, at www.aer-redstone.com. Call Maj. Kirk McCauley 313-4260.

- Unity bands sale, through May 15, for \$3 each or two for \$5 at building 5400. Call Jo Countess 876-8161, Toni Hamilton 842-9388 or Juanita Gooden 842-9402.

- AER shirt sale, through May 13. Denim shirts both long and short sleeve, polo shirts and T-shirts. Call Cheryl Garrison 876-1034 or Marie-Helene Wor-

thington 876-2396.

- Mr. Cinn-O-Man cinnamon rolls for sale, \$2 each. Call Lisa Gomien 842-8389 or Dorothy May 842-8391.

- Golf tournament, Thursday at Sunset Landing Golf Course. Call Chris Farmer 313-6553 or Will Lovell 955-2370.

- Popcorn/soda/peanut sale, April 26 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the building 5300 hallway. Call Susan Douglas 842-6795 or Cherry Hovik 876-9484.

- Book sale, April 25-29 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. between 5303 and 5304. Call Jerome 955-0042.

- AER bowling tournament, Thursday at noon, at Redstone Lanes, tickets \$10. Call Don Slagle 876-3445 or Lynn Moore 955-6001.

- Cookout, Thursday from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., outside building 5302. Call Jennifer Cash 876-1156.

- Chocolate and coffee extravaganza, \$10 purchase prior to the event, May 2 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Call Sam Whitaker 876-9762 or Donald Battise 876-2333.

- Garrison AER FunDay, May 3 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at building 4488. Call Maj. Dave Bailey 313-2874. Rain

date is May 5.

- Silent auction, May 3 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at building 5687. Call Vicky Caylor 876-1335 or Nancy Readus 876-6990.

- Ice cream social, May 4 from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at building 5250 (north entrance). Cost \$1 per scoop, 25 cents per topping. Call Bill Breffeilh 842-0794.

- Bake sale, May 4 at 7:30 a.m. at building 5308 lobby. Call Jennifer Jerome 955-0042.

- Hamburger sale, May 4 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at building 5681 south end. Call Nan Wilson 313-4166 or Carolyn Cunningham 313-6200.

- RDEC 5K Run and Fun Walk, May 10 at 9:30 a.m. at PT track off Corporal Road. Entry fee \$15 includes T-shirt and refreshments. Rain date is May 11. Call Wynema Wooten 842-2775, Carolyn Farmer 876-3810 or Justin Olander 842-2769.

- Chicken and fish fry, May 10 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost \$7 per ticket. Call Lynn Allan 876-2848.

- Barbecue, May 12 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Vincent Park (Rustic Lodge if rain). Tickets are \$8 each. Call Michelle Hankins 876-3755 or Mary Burnett 313-6541.

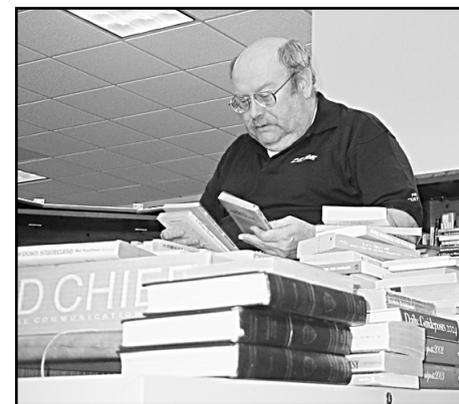


Photo by Skip Vaughn

BOOK CORNER— Brian Barry sorts books for the Command Analysis Directorate's annual book sale for Army Emergency Relief, April 25-29 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Sparkman building 5300, first floor corridor between 5303 and 5304. Books, books-on-tape, CDs, DVDs and videotapes can be contributed through April 26 by calling him at 876-5743.

- AER golf tournament, four-person scramble, May 20 at Redstone Golf Course. Cost \$28 for members, \$40 non-members. Register by May 13 (rain date May 27). Call Nadine Manderson 842-8714 or Jim Dabbs 842-0170.

Boeing gets contract for more PAC-3 seekers

Boeing has received a contract from Lockheed Martin Corp. for additional production of PAC-3 Missile seekers to be manufactured between 2006 and 2007.

This work is in addition to the current contract for 159 seekers and includes the first international sales of Patriot Advanced Capability-3 missiles. Terms of the contract will not be disclosed. Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control is the Patriot PAC-3 Missile Segment prime contractor.

"The PAC-3 enhanced Patriot System provides unrivaled, in-theater protection for our military and allies," said Debra Rub, vice president of Boeing Air & Missile Defense Systems. "The PAC-3 missile's lethality against Terminal Missile Defense threats makes it the solution of choice for today and in the future."

The battle-proven PAC-3 is a high velocity, hit-to-kill missile and is the newest addition to the

Patriot family of missiles. The seeker detects and tracks the target during the terminal phase of an engagement providing data to the missile's on-board guidance system.

Work on the PAC-3 program at the Boeing Huntsville facility includes production, assembly, integration and testing of the seeker. In El Paso, Texas, Boeing employees produce and test circuit card assemblies. The PAC-3 program office and design engineering functions, located in Anaheim, Calif., have program management and design responsibility for the seeker.

Boeing is the largest aerospace company in Alabama. Today, the workforce of nearly 3,300 employees perform leading edge work on a broad array of key space and defense programs including the Ground-based Mid-course Defense, International Space Station, Delta Launch Vehicles, Avenger, Arrow and PAC-3 missile. (Boeing release)

■ Avengers modified for ground support role

Avenger

continued from page 1

additional ammunition capacity and the ability to engage targets at 360 degrees at any elevation angle.

The team modified the unit's eight Avenger vehicles and furnished one complete spare kit. The six members worked two 18-hour days to get the job done. On the third day, they trained 34 Soldiers on the equipment with Wilson serving as the training leader. They did a

live-fire exercise with the Soldiers on March 25. The Boeing workers returned to the states March 24; and Lockwood and King came back March 27.

The Soldiers provided positive feedback on their anonymous written critique sheets. "Thank you all so much," wrote one. "You've given all of us the confidence in our weaponry to go home to our loved ones. You're all great Americans. God bless."

Wrote another Soldier: "Training was excellent."



Photo by Steve Milly

TEAMWORK— Jerry Wilson, left, of Boeing and Jeff King of CAS Inc. install ammo box inserts on an Avenger.

"They pushed forward into Iraq on April 1," said Lockwood, who served in the Marines from 1984-96. "That was why we had such limited time."

Modifying the unit's Avenger air defense vehicles "greatly enhances their capability at defeating ground targets in their current role," he said. "Compared to other Humvee-mounted machine guns, our system is gyro-stabilized with a man in the rotating turret which makes it much more adept at engaging targets while on the move."

Besides the project office and Boeing, support for the Avenger gun-up effort also came from the Logistics Assistance Office in country and from the Camp Buehring command staff.

Lt. Col. Walt Jones, product manager for CMDS missiles and platforms, said the modified Avenger is something the warfighter sought. "This is but an example of how CMDS is contributing to what all the project offices are doing to fulfill additional warfighting capability," he said.

Said Col. Rick DeFatta, project manager for Cruise Missile Defense Systems: "I believe this was a model of rapid response to an immediate user requirement. We listened to what they told us they required, put together a capability that met that requirement in a cost-effective manner and moved out using our expertise and manpower in full cooperation with our prime contractor, Boeing."

President visits troops, families at Fort Hood

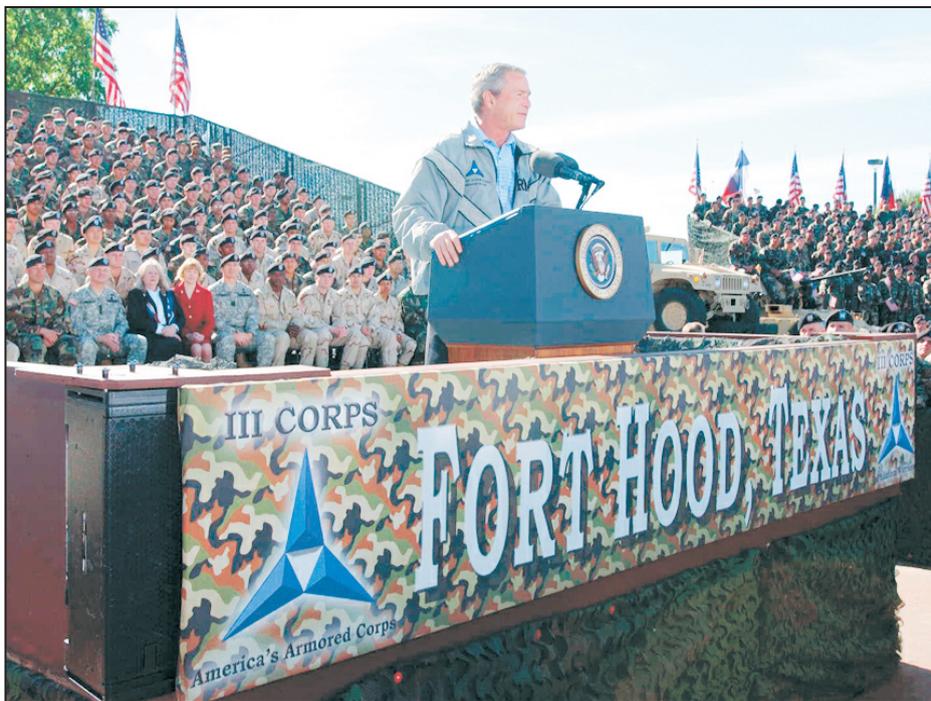


Photo by Spc. Matthew Chlosta

ARMY AUDIENCE— President George W. Bush speaks to Soldiers and their families April 12 at Kenneth W. Cooper Field at Fort Hood.

Commander in chief expresses appreciation

By Spc. MATTHEW CHLOSTA
Army News Service

FORT HOOD, Texas — The president of the United States addressed the largest military crowd of his presidency April 12 on Kenneth W. Cooper Field here.

President George W. Bush was given a rock-star welcome from an estimated 35,000 Soldiers and their families.

Beginning before the crack of dawn, the entire 4th Inf. Div. marched from its headquarters to the field in honor of the president's trip to Fort Hood.

At 10: 01 a.m. the president's helicopter, Marine One, circled the sea of forest green and desert tan clad Soldiers in front of 1st Cavalry Division's Headquarters.

At 10:15 a.m., Bush, dressed in a grey and black Army Physical Training jacket stitched with "Commander in Chief" and emblazoned with a III Corps Caldron patch, made his way to the podium on a runway threaded through the throng.

The Soldiers and families that flanked both sides of his walkway, clapped, hooted and hollered as Bush reached out into the crowd smacking "high-fives."

Lt. Gen Thomas Metz, commanding general, III Corps and Fort Hood, introduced the president.

"Thank you for a job well done," Bush said.

"Others are preparing to head out this fall, some for a second tour of duty," Bush continued. "Whether you're coming or going, you're making an enormous difference for the security of our nation and for the peace of the world. I want to thank you for defending your fellow citizens. I want to thank you for extending liberty to millions and I want to thank you for making America proud.

"This weekend we marked the two-year anniversary of the liberation of Baghdad," Bush said. "The terrorists have made Iraq a central front in the war on terror. Because of your service, because of your sacrifice, we are defeating them over there where they live, so we do not have to face them where we live.

"The United States is determined to help the Iraqis succeed," Bush said. "Today, more than 150,000 Iraqi security forces have been trained and equipped. And for the first time, the Iraqi Army,

police and other security forces now outnumber U.S. forces in Iraq."

During his 18-minute speech to the troops, Bush highlighted the achievements of many Fort Hood units.

He thanked "The Ivy Division (4th Inf. Div.);" for its work in capturing Saddam Hussein during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"When Ironhorse Soldiers left for Iraq, Saddam Hussein was a brutal dictator sitting in a palace, by the time they came home he was sitting in a prison cell," Bush said.

Bush also commended "The First Team (1st Cav. Div.);" for its ferocious fighting in the battles of Najaf and Fallujah, Iraq.

"When it came time to drive the terrorists and insurgents from Fallujah," Bush said, "Soldiers of the First Cavalry Division spearheaded the assault. The 'First Team,' was first in Fallujah."

He spoke about the important contributions of III Corps and 13th Corps Support Command during their deployments.

Bush said there is more work to be done, but with the foundation laid by Soldiers from Fort Hood, Iraq will eventually be able to stand up on its own as a free nation.

"Troops from Fort Hood have done their part," he said. "There is a lot of hard work ahead. Because of you, freedom is taking root in Iraq. Our success in Iraq will make America safer for us and for future generations."

Bush also recognized the contributions of military families in the Global War on Terror.

"I especially want to thank the military families here today," Bush said. "I want to thank you for your sacrifices on the War on Terror. It isn't easy being the one left behind, when a love one goes to war. Americans are grateful for your sacrifice and your service and so is your commander in chief."

"It was a tremendous opportunity for Soldiers to see their commander in chief (and) to hear him express his thanks for their sacrifices in this Global War," Metz said.

"You have fought the battles on the war on terror and you have served the cause of freedom and you can be proud of all that you have achieved," Bush said.

Editor's note: Spc. Matthew Chlosta serves with the 4th Public Affairs Detachment.

Huntsville SWAT team demonstrates civilian operation



*832nd battalion officers
get training in tactics*

By **SKIP VAUGHN**
Rocket editor
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Urban warfare is urban warfare, whether on the streets of Huntsville or in Iraq.

Officers of the 832nd Ordnance Battalion got a view of how civilian police secure a building during a demonstration by the Huntsville Police Department's SWAT team Friday. The police special weapons and tactical unit conducted a makeshift entry at vacant building 3491 on Honest John Road.

"TRADOC (Training and Doctrine Command) has mandated that we train our Soldiers on urban operations just because of what's been going on in Iraq," Capt. Stephen Smith, 832nd operations officer, said.

The police demonstration served as April's event for the monthly Officer Leadership Development Training conducted by the battalion.

"This is an opportunity for the officers assigned to the 832nd Ordnance Battalion to observe urban operations techniques that law enforcement agencies apply," Lt. Col. Brenda Tate, 832nd battalion commander, said.

Capt. Patrick Schachle, Bravo Company commander, saw similarities between the civilian and military operations. "It's good for us to see (the civilian side) because I'm sure we can learn from them as well," he said.

"This has been a wonderful demonstration," 832nd executive officer Maj. Mary Ewing said. "These guys communicate very effectively."

Photo by Skip Vaughn

JUST PRACTICING— Bravo Company participants in urban warfare training include, from left, Pvt. Joseph Walton (with back to camera), Pfc. Joshua Wardle, Drill Sgt. LaQuaine Bess and Pvt. Fabian Gloria.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

ALL SECURE— Huntsville SWAT team Sgt. Ken Brooks enters building 3491 during the demonstration for the 832nd.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

ADVANCE BRIEFING— Huntsville SWAT team member Larry Shields talks with the 832nd Ordnance Battalion officers before his unit's demonstration at building 3491.

Hand-to-hand combat class has first graduates

Building confidence part of curriculum

By **KELLEY LANE**
Staff writer
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War gets in your face. Sometimes the enemy does as well. For those times when Soldiers find themselves in close quarter combat, the extra confidence gained by knowing that they are trained for such encounters can mean the difference between life and death.

Building that confidence is the basis for combative training. Redstone's first combative training class for instructors graduated April 13.

The Redstone class consisted of drill sergeants and instructors who will now go on to teach their Soldiers.

To teach the teachers, Sgt. 1st Class John Jones, level 3 combatives master trainer, came to Redstone from Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md. Based upon 13 core moves, the class is a hands-on experience. Class members pair off and put what they have learned to practical use before moving on to their next partner. Differences in size and style mimic real world situations where opponents may not be evenly matched.

'We spend most of our time on the ground. That's what we're good at. We teach them to protect themselves, get in there and take them to the ground. That's where we finish the fight.'

— Sgt. 1st Class John Jones,
level 3 combatives master trainer

"The program is set up to instill in every Soldier the confidence to close the distance with the enemy," Jones said. "If we can give them that confidence here in a friendly environment, then they are not going to be scared when it comes to a close quarter battle in a wartime situation."

Changes in the ways of warfare have prompted the Army to call for Soldiers to be formally trained in combative technique.

"It's guidance by the chief of staff of the Army that (there will be) one level 1 certified Soldier in each squad. Every platoon will have a level 2 qualified person. Every company will have a level 3 guy and battalions will have level 4 guys," Jones said. "Our battlefield is not a linear battlefield anymore. It's close quarter battles. There have already been five or six instances to date where we've had to use hand-to-hand combat in Operation Enduring Freedom. Every Soldier needs this training."

At the end of the level 1 class, Soldiers are tested by their instructor to not only be able to execute the moves, but to be able to teach them so that they can pass on what they have learned.

"I test them and make sure they know how to teach all of the moves. I make sure they have a good understanding and are able to teach the moves back to me in the same way I taught it to them. We want a steady continuity out there in the Army. We don't want moves watered down," Jones said.

Soldiers completing the training receive a certificate to go with their scrapes and bruises. The participants get a little dirty as well.

"We spend most of our time on the ground. That's what we're good at. We teach them to protect themselves, get in there and take them to the ground. That's where we finish the fight," Jones said. "Who wins a fight? The person whose buddy shows up with a gun first. So you have to get it done quick."



Photo by Kelley Lane

HOLD ON— Drill Sgt. Lee Halman gets all choked up, thanks to Staff Sgt. Miguel Delgadillo.



Photo by Kelley Lane

TAKING ADVANTAGE— Staff Sgt. Julius Clark gains the upper hand on Staff Sgt. James Epps.

A voice for those in need

Community service staff adds victim advocate

By **KIM HENRY**

Staff writer

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Black and blue. For some these are just colors, but for others this is a reflection of abuse. A physical brand often misconceived as love.

Redstone now has someone who can help victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Heather McCaulley has become the victim advocate coordinator at Army Community Service.

McCaulley is new to working with the Army, but brings eight years of experience from the social work field. She said the profession itself has given her a variety of experiences to draw from.

"I think working with different cultures and attitudes helped me," she said. "Being exposed to diversity helped me to be non-judgmental and objective in dealing with domestic violence and sexual assault."

McCaulley got her undergraduate degree from Alabama State University and her master's from Alabama A&M. She was an advocate for abused children and people with disabilities in previous positions.

The Department of Defense researched domestic violence and sexual assault within the services and as a result decided there was a need for a victim advocate position. McCaulley's new position falls under the family advocacy program at ACS.

"Victims can now choose to have an advocate by their side to assist them from the time an incident is reported until it is resolved," Virginia Dempsey, FAP manager, said. "Victims will have someone to talk to who understands and someone to call when they are scared or confused."

The victim advocate coordinator develops safety plans, performs needs assessments, provides emotional support, crisis intervention and emergency services and makes medical or legal referrals to on post and off post resources. McCaulley, a Childersburg native, said she is here to inform victims of their rights and also educate and train those on post about domestic violence and sexual assault.

"Advocacy is increasing a victim's safety and autonomy," she said. "Letting them remain safe and maintain their independence. Once someone has been traumatized by a situation it is easy to lose security."

McCaulley said with the cases she handles there are two types of confidentiality a victim can expect. For victims of domestic violence there is limited confidentiality. If someone reports any kind of domestic abuse to McCaulley she must report it to the FAP manager and the command.



Photo by Kim Henry

ON CALL 24-7— Heather McCaulley, victim advocate coordinator, works full time at Army Community Service and can be reached after hours.

Even though there is limited confidentiality, McCaulley stressed the importance of reporting domestic abuse. "Just because an individual comes to me for help it doesn't mean it has to negatively affect a career. Both the abuser and the abused can get counseling," she said. "It doesn't necessarily mean a career's over or the relationship will end in divorce."

For sexual assault, McCaulley has restrictive reporting. This allows a victim to disclose the details of the assault without triggering the investigative process. She can assist in coordinating medical treatment or counseling, but the command and law enforcement doesn't have to be involved in it.

"With sexual assault there can be a lot of shame and embarrassment," she said. McCaulley added that victims often don't want to report the incident because they think it will ruin their career or they be treated differently because of the incident. "It can be the most under-reported violent crime at large in the military," she said. McCaulley encourages victims to report the crime so that she can help them with medical treatment, law enforcement and/or the command.

She is trying to spread the word that there is help for those who are victims of domestic abuse and sexual assault.

"They will have someone to educate them on the military process for handling their incident of domestic violence or sexual assault, make them aware of all options open to them, be available to answer questions, and refer them to all available resources," Dempsey said.

McCaulley is on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. She can be reached at ACS weekdays from 7 to 4:30 at 876-5397. After hours, call 508-6613.

Crime victims learn more about their rights

Staff judge advocate office offers witness symposium

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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Rape. Kidnap. Earthquake. Tornado. Physical assault. War. Witnessing a murder.

These are all examples of trauma. To share information on recovering from trauma, the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate held a symposium April 11 at Heiser Hall during Victim Witness Week. The theme was "Justice Isn't Served Until Crime Victims Are."

"Anytime you are involved in trauma, it can have an impact on you," social worker Karen Scott of Redstone Arsenal Behavioral Medicine said. Other speakers included a victim witness advocate, victim witness coordinator, law enforcement coordinator, victim witness liaison, victim advocate, family advocacy program manager, Criminal Investigation Division special agent, and a trial counsel.

Heather McCaulley, victim advocate at Army Community Service, described the



Photo by Skip Vaughn

HOW TO RECOVER— Social worker Karen Scott speaks on healing and empowering crime victims.

victim advocate program which is new at ACS.

"It's a volunteer program that provides services to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault," she said.

Teledyne Brown receives recertification

Teledyne Brown Engineering Inc. announces that its nuclear quality assurance program and nuclear design and manufacturing operations have been recertified by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers for an additional three years.

The renewal means that Teledyne Brown has met the strict rules in the ASME Boiler and Pressure Vessel Code Section III "Rules for Construction of Nuclear Facility Components" and Section VIII "Rules for Construction of Pressure Vessels." TBE is authorized to design and fabricate nuclear vessels, piping, storage tanks, core support structures and shop assemblies for the nuclear industry. The Certificates of Authorization include renewal of the "N" and "NPT" stamps for nuclear pressure vessels, piping and related parts. The renewal also includes the "U" stamp for the

design and build of commercial Section VIII, Pressure Vessels.

"Teledyne Brown is among a limited number of elite companies to achieve this certification," Jim Link, president of Teledyne Brown Engineering, said. "We're proud to receive this certification and know it will be a valued assurance to our customers as we grow our nuclear manufacturing business."

Teledyne Brown has been providing services to the nuclear industry for 30 years. Currently, the company manufactures stainless steel canisters for Westinghouse Savannah River Company, which are used to store and dispose of high-level nuclear waste. Also, Teledyne Brown, under contract to Public Works and Government Services Canada, performs monitoring services for the dismantling of nuclear-powered submarines in the Russian Federation. *(Teledyne Brown release)*

Advanced Combat Helmet saves Soldier's life

Improvised explosive device strikes his vehicle in convoy

By Sgt. DAVID FOLEY
Army News Service

CAMP TAJI, Iraq – Wearing his new helmet saved the life of one Soldier, and now he goes nowhere without it.

Staff Sgt. Shannon West, 377th Transportation Company, 68th Corps Support Battalion, 1st Corps Support Command, Fort Bragg, N.C., was riding in the passenger seat of a heavy equipment transport vehicle Feb. 14 with a convoy on its way from Baghdad International Airport to Logistical Support Area Anaconda, Iraq, to drop off supplies when his vehicle was struck with an improvised explosive device about one mile away from Camp Taji.

The IED instantly disabled West's vehicle, forcing him and his driver, Sgt. Brandon Askew, who was deafened by the blast, to exit the vehicle and get into defensive fighting positions.

"Everything we had was just blown to bits," Askew said.

When the two Soldiers exited the vehicle, they were then confronted with increasing levels of small-arms fire. West and his comrades returned fire while devising a plan to get everyone back on the move. However, their troubles were compounded when the driver of the truck two vehicles behind West's HET was

unable to see through the cloud of dust and smoke and crashed into the rear of another vehicle, pinning the passenger under the dashboard, making the rescue more complicated.

Askew provided cover fire while West and one of his comrades moved to the rear vehicle where they dislodged the wounded Soldier and carried him about 100 yards to a Humvee from another convoy that had stopped to help.

All of the Soldiers made it out of the situation with minimal wounds.

More than three hours passed between the time of the blast and when West and his comrades made it back to Camp Taji for the debriefing. That's when West realized he had been hit by fragments of the IED.

"The funny thing was, I didn't know until I got here," West said. "My squad leader said 'Hey sergeant West, have you seen your Kevlar?'"

"When I took it off, I saw a big cut in it," he said. "When I looked inside (the helmet) I realized what had actually



Arnews photo

SUDDEN IMPACT— Staff Sgt. Shannon West's Advanced Combat Helmet has an egg-sized knot on the inside, showing the impact of a fragment propelled by an improvised explosive device near Baghdad. West credits the ACH with saving his life.

happened. I was surprised."

A fragment of the IED had lodged itself into West's helmet creating a hole the size of a pencil in the outer shell, but the inside of the helmet was protruding into the padding with a bump the size of a golf ball.

West said he had his doubts about the Advanced Combat Helmet when it was first issued to him, but he has changed

his mind since.

"I didn't like it. It feels funny on your head and you need to adjust it every time you take it off. The only thing I liked about it is that it's light," he said. "But my faith in the (ACH) is really there. I am glad to see it actually works."

After losing one Soldier and two others receiving serious wounds because of IED attacks, West's company commander Capt. Scott Williams, was also glad to see the effectiveness of the ACH.

"This definitely saved his life," Williams said while holding West's ACH.

The angle of trajectory probably had a lot to do with it, but if he weren't wearing the helmet, West would have probably died, he said.

Because of the effectiveness of the ACH, West will be awarded the Purple Heart for suffering a mild concussion rather than receiving a posthumous medal, something West said is a blessing, but doesn't completely settle his nerves.

"My first few missions back, I was terrified," he said. "I was actually paranoid but after getting back into it, I'm OK. The first two missions were nerve racking, but now it's not too bad."

West and his comrades continue to drive the streets of Iraq taking supplies wherever they are needed, and they always wear their individual body armor and ACHs.

Editor's note: Sgt. David Foley writes for the Multi-National Corps – Iraq Public Affairs Office.

Despite herculean efforts, young Afghan boy dies

Open-heart surgery administered in U.S.

By DONNA MILES
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON – U.S. military officials expressed condolences April 16 over the death of an Afghan toddler following herculean efforts to save him from a life-threatening heart ailment that included surgery in the United States.

Sixteen-month-old Qudrat Ullah Wardak died April 14, just two days after his 7,000-mile return trip to Afghanistan following open-heart surgery March 8 at Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis.

Indiana National Guard troops were instrumental in helping pave the way for the young boy's trip to the United States for treatment. Last September, the boy's father reportedly carried him seven miles to Camp Phoenix, a U.S. base in Afghanistan, in search of the medical care his son desperately needed.

With the help of the Indiana Guard members at the base and the Rotary Clubs of Central Indiana, Qudrat was flown to Indianapolis for the operation. He



Photo by Sgt. Joe McFarren

POL-E CHARKHI, Afghanistan – Qudrat Ullah Wardak (being held) is welcomed home by family and friends in a community gathering at his home at a refugee camp outside of Kabul, Afghanistan, April 13. The 16-month-old boy died April 14.

quickly showed improvement but died two days after returning to Afghanistan.

Combined Forces Command

Afghanistan said members of Qudrat's refugee village outside Kabul informed them of the young boy's death. Staff from

the Task Force Phoenix Troop Medical Clinic immediately deployed to the village and confirmed the news. Officials said

reports indicate Qudrat died in his father's arms.

"Our thoughts and prayers are certainly with his family, and this story touched the hearts of many Americans, both here in our coalition forces and back in the United States, particularly in Indiana," said Army Lt. Gen. David Barno, CFCA commander, during a press conference April 16.

"Our condolences go out to Qudrat's family and the members of the refugee village. This is a very sad day," added Maj. Eric Bloom, a U.S. military spokesman in Kabul.

Officials said there is no doubt that Qudrat received the best possible medical care U.S. Soldiers and the staff of Riley Hospital for Children could provide.

Over the course of the last eight months, officials said Soldiers from Troop Medical Clinic and Security Force in Kabul have spent "countless hours" caring for the villagers at the refugee camp.

"We will continue to visit the refugee village, we will continue to provide the best possible care we can, and we will continue to support the village through this difficult time," officials said April 1.

Scout helicopter logistics professionals honored

Team earned recognition from higher headquarters

By SKIP VAUGHN
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More than 20 current and former members of the OH-58D/Comanche Weapon System Team filled the commanding general's conference room Monday for an award ceremony.

They received individual awards in recognition of being the first runner-up for the Army Materiel Command "Outstanding Integrated Product/Weapon System Team of the Year for 2003."

"What you're doing on a daily basis to serve our troops is phenomenal," Dr. Tom

Pieplow, associate director for aviation at the Integrated Materiel Management Center, said.

The awards were presented by Dr. Richard Amos, deputy to the commanding general at the Aviation and Missile Command. "I compliment you on your service to our nation's sons and daughters, and I compliment you on your professionalism," he said.

"Every one of you are truly logistics professionals," IMMC executive director John Chapman said.

Art Ather, former director of the Kiowa Warrior Scout Observation Directorate at IMMC, received the first award. He is now the command's liaison officer in Washington, D.C.

"This is a day that I've waited for for a long time," he said. "The Kiowa team, this is a great credit to all of you."



Photo by Skip Vaughn

TOP AWARD— Art Ather, left, accepts an award from Dr. Richard Amos, deputy to the commanding general, on behalf of the OH-58D/Comanche Weapon System Team.

International students have eventful month

By SCOTT HUTHER
International Military Student Office

Members of the International Military Student Office have already had a busy April.

On April 9, the IMSO took a field studies program trip to Cathedral Caverns in Grant. The focus of the trip was to bring the eight international military students to see and learn about the world-record holding cave located a short distance from Redstone Arsenal.

Soldiers were from Botswana, Egypt, Greece, Korea, Pakistan, Tunisia, Jamaica and Taiwan.

The next event allowed the international students to meet and have lunch and fellowship with members of the International Services Council of Huntsville at the Fern Bell Recreation Center. This council does many activities to benefit our international soldiers and is the primary provider of host families



Courtesy photo

INTERNATIONAL LUNCH— At left Sgt. Mothibedi Mokaba of Botswana and Ann Schrimsher of International Services Council share a laugh during lunch at the Fern Bell Recreation Center in Huntsville.

for our soldiers.

These type events have been a great assistance in getting each of our soldiers host families. The students enjoyed both events greatly.

Air warrior office supports warfighter from head-to-toe

Clothing, individual equipment among aviation troop products

By DAN O'BOYLE
For the Rocket

Program Executive Office Soldier, although located at Fort Belvoir, Va., is also represented on Redstone Arsenal by the 45-member Air Warrior Product Manager's office.

Located on the second floor of the Sparkman Center's building 5300, the PM staff works daily to develop, field, and continuously improve integrated, modular, life-support equipment for helicopter aircrews. For the past two years, the PM's efforts have been focused on supporting the warfighter.

"Air Warrior integrates aircrew survival and mission equipment into a modular warfighting system for AH-64 Apache, UH-60 Black Hawk, CH-47 Chinook, and OH-58D Kiowa aircraft and AW outfits every aircrew member," the office's logistics chief, John Jolly, said. "Modularity allows one set of equipment to support all missions in all environments."

The Clothing and Individual Equipment system consists of newly developed items and currently fielded equipment collectively referred to as the AW ensemble. The Survival Equipment Subsystem includes a survival gear carrier with integrated extraction harness, soft body armor, a .30-caliber ballistic upgrade plate that provides protection from a 7.62 mm armor piercing round, a modular thigh or shoulder holster

for the M9 (9mm) defensive weapon, provisions for a PRC90/PRC112 radio and a survival knife carried in an ankle sheath.

A key component of the AW system is the Microclimate Cooling System. The system consists of a Microclimate Cooling Garment worn against a Soldier's torso, and a Microclimate Cooling Unit that is mounted on the aircraft. The system provides a significant increase in mission duration times coupled with reducing body core temperature, enhancing the overall effectiveness of the warfighter. Testing in a climate controlled simulator at Fort Rucker, Ala., demonstrated a 350 percent increase in mission duration time, compared to current equipment.

Additional systems are part of the ensemble, and are designed to meet a full range of user requirements. For example, the Modular Integrated Helmet Display System includes the HGU56P flight helmet, laser eye protection and a night vision device mount. The Over Water Survival Subsystem includes a low profile personal flotation device, an inflatable raft and an emergency underwater breathing device. Chemical and biological protection includes a modified Chemical Protective Undergarment, M45 or M48 protective mask, gloves and overboots. Specific clothing items include the modified Aviation Battle Dress Uniform and the Aircrew Cold Weather System.

"Air Warrior is currently being fielded to all aircrews deploying to Iraq and Afghanistan," product manager Lt. Col. Michael Wills said. "We are fielding equipment four times faster than previously planned to support current combat operations. Since April of last year, more than 2,700 systems have been fielded.

"We are presently converting all of the Air Warrior Equipment to the new Universal Camouflage Pattern, and at the same time incorporating 46 changes to the system based on user feedback from use in combat. Being responsive to the users needs is a fundamental part of our program's success. Every day we play a significant role in aircrew safety."

A recent case reflects this support. "One of our aviators recently took an anti-Iraqi force's 7.62 round in the upper chest," Operation Iraqi Freedom task force Lt. Col. Edward McKee wrote in a message to the product office. "The Air Warrior front plate stopped the round. The crewmember received a cracked rib and sternum and some minor facial cuts. He will return to duty in a week. The Air Warrior is great survival equipment and is being put to the test of heavy use in a hostile environment."

The aviator's unit commander, Lt. Col. Frank Muth, added: "The Air Warrior Armor Plate saved the life of one of our pilots."

But Air Warrior is not just clothing and individual equipment.

Also being fielded to deploying units is the Electronic Data Manager, a small, full featured computer in the form of an interactive touch screen electronic kneeboard worn by the aviator in flight. The EDM provides the aircrew with mission planning and graphics, digital map data, and when paired with Blue Force Tracking, GPS moving map, digital messaging, and friendly force situational awareness capabilities. The product office works closely with its PEO Aviation counterparts to successfully integrate all AW systems on deploying aircraft.



Courtesy photo

BATTLE READY— Today's aviation warfighters are thankful for efforts under way at Redstone.

Nothing tows like a Deere

Tractors to be used in Iraq, Afghanistan

By KIM HENRY
Staff writer
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It may not be Army green, but the 60 new John Deere tractors will be just as much a part of the Army for Soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The tractors will be used as Aircraft Towing Systems, which is the interim solution to the Standard Aircraft Towing System currently being developed to support Aviation Ground Support Equipment requirements.

Following a visit to the Theater of Operations late last year, AGSE representatives learned that Humvees were being used to move aircraft, limiting Force Protection capabilities.

"The John Deere tractor was evaluated and selected among other options using performance, schedule and cost as the primary considerations," Maj. Mathew Hannah, assistant product manager for AGSE, said. "Given the austere conditions in the desert, the John Deere was the best choice for the Army in this operational environment."

Each tractor will be fielded with two tow bars, one in the front and one in the back, that are compatible with the Apache, Black Hawk and Chinook aircraft. Sgt. 1st Class Simon Trinidad, AGSE PM Office, will take the first set of tractors into theater by air toward the end of April and the remaining systems will be fielded between mid-May and mid-June.



Courtesy photo

TRACTOR PULL— Brig. Gen. Bill Phillips, deputy program executive officer for aviation, visits John Deere dealer Don Rose in Bessemer on April 7 to test the new tow vehicles.

Joint perspective key in base realignment process

Rumsfeld's recommendations due May 16 to Congress

By SAMANTHA QUIGLEY
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Base Realignment and Closure 2005 is in full swing and this round is important for many reasons, according to Philip Grone, deputy undersecretary of defense for installations and environment.

"In order to support ongoing force transformation, to improve the joint utilization of our assets, to convert waste to warfighting ... all of those things are important in and of themselves," Grone said in an interview with American Forces Press Service and the Pentagon Channel on April 11.

"But the timing of BRAC for 2005 is also important because it provides a platform, an opportunity, for us to assess the sites and select the sites for forces that will return to the United States as a result of the broader global-force posture realignment that the secretary and the department have undertaken."

DoD uses the process to reorganize its installation infrastructure to most efficiently support its forces, increase operational readiness and facilitate new ways of doing business, according to the BRAC web site. The first BRAC occurred in

1988, and more followed in 1991, 1993 and 1995.

Congress authorized BRAC 2005 in the fiscal 2002 National Defense Authorization Act. The selection criteria were published in February 2004. In March of this year, President Bush appointed the members of an independent BRAC commission.

'All the communities that support our military installations do so very solidly with a great deal of cooperation and partnership. But as a result of what we must do to enhance the military mission, it's inevitable that there will be some bases, as excess capacity, will no longer be required.'

— Philip Grone
deputy undersecretary of defense

The next big BRAC deadline is May 16 when Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld must make his recommendations for realignments and closures to Congress and the commission. By Sept. 8, the commission must send its findings to the president, who has until Sept. 23 to approve or disapprove the commission's report.

Grone said that initially all installations are considered for closure or realignment.

"By statute all military installations are to be treated equally," he said. "Throughout this process we are assessing all of our installations and functions and missions in an equal way so that we can have a defensible package of recommendations to provide to the independent commission."

There are several criteria for selecting a base for BRAC action, but one top consideration is the installation's current and future mission capabilities and the impact on operational readiness of the total force, including the impact on joint warfighting, training and readiness.

"In this round of BRAC, the joint cross-service groups that we have established have greater breadth (than BRAC 1995)," Grone said. "So rather than looking at, as we did in 1995, depot maintenance in this round of BRAC, we're looking at all of the industrial activities of the department on a joint basis."

Medical functions, headquarters and support, education and training, intelligence, supply and storage are all being assessed from a joint perspective, he said. This will help provide the most efficient military structure.

Grone noted that jointness is a "key aspect" of this BRAC. "The decision process in this BRAC is joint from top to bottom in this round of BRAC," he said.

Another important criterion when the commission considers an installation for a

BRAC action is the availability and condition of lands, facilities and associated airspace at both existing and potential receiving locations. That availability also extends to homeland-defense training missions.

Bases chosen for closure or major realignment can expect the process to be completed within six years from the approval of recommendations. They can also expect some assistance and guidance from the DoD and interagency partners, Grone said.

DoD's Office of Economic Adjustment makes available planning grants and assistance. Also, Grone said, a series of policy reforms will enhance the DoD's ability to move forward to close or realign a base as expeditiously as possible to allow the economic redevelopment of the areas affected.

"All the communities that support our military installations do so very solidly with a great deal of cooperation and partnership," he said. "But as a result of what we must do to enhance the military mission, it's inevitable that there will be some bases, as excess capacity, will no longer be required."

"In those circumstances we're going to work in a very productive way, we trust, with those local communities ... working in partnership with them to provide a foundation for solid economic redevelopment."

Lesson for spring: Know what to do when love hurts

Sexual diseases U.S. epidemic

By BARBARA ANDERSON
Community health nurse

April is National Sexually Transmitted Disease Awareness Month. The goal is to educate the general public about sexually transmitted diseases and the need for testing.

Despite years of control and prevention efforts, STDs remain an epidemic in the United States. Twelve to fifteen million Americans contract an STD each year and two-thirds of them occur in people under age 25.

Adolescents and young adults are at higher risk for acquiring STDs for a number of reasons:

- They may not understand their risk for becoming infected with an STD.
- Adolescents and young adults are more likely to have multiple sexual partners and more likely to engage in unprotected sex.
- They may be more likely to select a partner from a high-risk population.
- They may not know that a person can be infected with an STD and not have symptoms.
- They may falsely believe that all STD infections are curable. All sexually active men and women

should be screened and tested at least annually for STDs.

Having sex (sharing body fluids) with an infected person or sharing needles with an infected person puts one at high risk for becoming infected with an STD. Some STDs, such as herpes or warts, can be transmitted through close skin to skin contact with an infected area or sore. In some cases, certain STDs can be passed from mother to baby before or during birth, and from breastfeeding as well.

Signs that may signal an STD infection can be burning or pain when passing urine, sores, bumps or blisters near the sex organs or mouth, fever, chills, night sweats, swollen glands, swelling or itching in the genitals, an unusual discharge, bleeding that is not menstrual, or pain in the lower part of the belly. STDs do not go away on their own and they are not treatable with any over-the-counter medication. STDs require diagnosis and treatment by a health care provider.

Early treatment is essential in preventing complications such as pelvic inflammatory disease, sterility, miscarriage, tubal pregnancy, blindness as well as possible damage to heart, lungs, joints and tissue. Not having sex and avoiding contact with another person's body fluids is the only sure way to avoid becoming

infected with a behavior related STD. Using a barrier correctly during sex can offer some protection. Avoiding high risk behaviors — such as pick-up encounters at clubs or one night stands, paid encounters, having sex with someone known to use injectable drugs or known to have multiple sex partners, or combining drug or alcohol use with sex — can help to lower risk.

It is important to know that once a person is infected with any STD, they are at a higher risk of getting an HIV infection. Education on the risks of getting an STD and having a personal prevention plan is the one essential behavior to STD prevention.

STD Awareness Month is a good time to talk to young people. Stop by Fox Army Health Center for more information or educational handouts that can provide facts on sexually transmitted diseases. Or call Preventive Medicine at 955-8888 (extension 1026) for more information.

Open discussion can even start with the help of Internet sites that provide age appropriate STD information for children, teens and parents. One can be found on the Internet at www.kidshealth.org. Let the month of April signal a time for learning and talking about prevention of sexually transmitted diseases.

Unplugging the truth on energy consumed

The Redstone Arsenal Energy Management Office wants to attune consumers to some common misconceptions:

Myth: When the television and appliances are turned off, no energy is used.

Fact: Most devices will continue to consume power when they're turned off, sometimes as much power as when they're on. A surprisingly large number of electrical products — from air conditioners to VCRs — cannot be switched completely off without unplugging the device. These products draw power 24 hours a day, often without the knowledge of the consumer. This power consumption is called "standby power."

Myth: Fluorescent lighting is unhealthy.

Fact: Fluorescent lighting has changed a lot in the last few years. Today, fluorescent lamps have greatly improved

color quality. The annoying flicker and hum associated with fluorescent lamps has been eliminated with the use of electronic ballasts. Of course, fluorescents are more efficient than standard incandescent lighting. Because they require less electricity, fluorescents generate less power plant pollution, emissions which have many known health effects. Fluorescent lights also contain small amounts of mercury, and should be disposed of properly. However, even more mercury releases are avoided thanks to reduced use of the mercury-containing fossil fuels used to generate electricity. If it's been awhile since you tried fluorescent lights, you might give them another chance.

For more information, call energy manager Mark Smith 842-0014 or resource efficiency manager Bob Quick 842-0235.

Military spouses get new online resource

Education, employment information available

WASHINGTON — A new Military Spouse Career Center commissioned by the Department of Defense Office of Military Community & Family Policy has started at www.Military.com/spouse. This resource connects America's 1 million military spouses with education options, scholarships, training programs, career planning tips and employment opportunities.

The new Military Spouse Career Center was developed under contract by Monster, the leading global online careers property, and its Military.com subsidiary.

"Military spouses also serve, and we aim to put career, education and training opportunities and resources at their fingertips," said John Molino, deputy undersecretary for defense for military community and family policy.

"We aim to make it easier for employers and educational institutions to reach this large, attractive talent pool that has proven elusive to-date," said Christopher Michel, president of Military.com, a subsidiary of Monster.

The new Military Spouse Career Center offers an extensive job board that includes hundreds of thousands of jobs from the public and private sectors. A list

of Military Spouse-Friendly employers is included, and will grow as more employers step forward to participate.

The new Career Center includes information on entering and advancing in popular career fields, especially when military relocation requires finding a new role. The Career Center covers many so-called "portable" career fields that lend themselves to continuity despite frequent relocations. Also included is information regarding jobs on military installations, overseas employment opportunities, and volunteer options.

For those exploring career options, the Military Spouse Career Center has a "Career Advice" section outlining a step-by-step approach to career planning. Tools and tips for assessing personal goals, skills and interests are included. This section culminates in tips for job searches, resumes, interviews, and starting a career, as well as, family support resources that can be key enablers to pursuing a career. Topics include career counseling, licensing and certification, childcare and youth programs.

The center also includes links to the personal support services offered to military families at Military OneSource 24/7 at 1-800-342-9647 and www.militaryonesource.com. (*Military Advantage/Monster Worldwide*)

Community camaraderie goes gangster style

Right Arm Night real retro event

By ADRIAN BAKER
MWR marketing director

Right Arm Night was a great success. Soldiers, civilians and many members of the Redstone community attended our second Right Arm Night en masse April 1 at the Officers and Civilians Club. Admission to bring your "Right Arm" was just \$5 per person in advance and \$7 per person at the door.

The Right Arm Night theme was 1920s gangster style "Speak Easy," complete with a Bath Tub Gin Bar, Pasta Buffet, Meat Balls and more. Right Arm Night was the third themed event hosted by the Officers and Civilians Club.

Every Right Arm Night and Boss's Night is focused around the old-fashioned events that military club systems were asked to host for many years prior to the last decade. These events were mainly used by commanders, junior officers, warrant officers and noncommissioned officers to build camaraderie and esprit de corps outside normal duty hours.

"These themed events are great; people have a lot of fun dressing up in cos-



Courtesy photo

SPEAK EASY— Bob "Mugsy" Howell, general manager of the Officers and Civilians Club, calls out another winner at Right Arm Night on April 1.

tume and coming out to enjoy time with friends outside of work," Bob Howell, Officers and Civilians Club general manager, said. Look for details on the next event; Boss's Night, with an Elvis Presley "Jail House Rock" theme.

Just like every event hosted by the club, Right Arm Night included fun, door prizes, giveaways, pinocle and poker games, period costumes, and great food in a casual, after-work atmosphere. Come on out to the next Right Arm Night or Boss's Night to find out for yourself. For more information on this and other Morale Welfare and Recreation events, go to www.redstonemwr.com.

Army theater needs Soldier-actors, techs

Touring company
seeks applicants

By TIM HIPPS
Army News Service

FORT BELVOIR, Va. — BRAVO! Army Theatre Touring Company is looking for five Soldiers to serve as cast and crew for its 2005 summer production of "Pvt. Wars" by James McClure. Deadline for applications is May 6.

The funny yet poignant play revolves around three Vietnam veterans recovering from injuries at an Army hospital. Acting roles include the parts of Woodruff Gately, a young Southerner who is childlike and mentally slow; Silvo, an Italian American who is streetwise and tough; and Natwick, a young man from Long Island, N.Y., who is intelligent and spoiled but probably should not have served in the military.

"It's a dark comedy of three guys struggling with the realities of returning home after recovering from their war injuries," said Tim

Higdon, program manager for Theatre BRAVO! "It's a chance for BRAVO! to use comedy that touches a deeper subject that is relevant even today."

BRAVO! is an all-Soldier touring theatrical company that performs on military installations throughout the world, delivering theatrical arts to Soldiers, family members and civilians.

A stage manager will be responsible for incorporation of props and costumes and may serve as an understudy for one of the actors. A lighting and audio engineer will be responsible for all lighting and sound cues in the production, as well as setting up and tearing down equipment. Integration of lighting and audio equipment with local installation venues also will be required.

To be considered, performers must submit a video cassette of their acting, singing and dancing skills. A prepared, memorized monologue at least three minutes long is required. Highlights from a previous production, if available, are recommended. Commanders and/or field directors

should recommend Soldiers who are mature, intelligent and thoroughly understand team play.

Candidates must have a minimum of 90 days in service remaining after Sept. 28, 2005, and must be fully deployable worldwide with no restrictions of health, family or legal issues because BRAVO! may tour deployed combat areas overseas.

Applications should be mailed to Army Entertainment Division, Attention: BRAVO!, P.O. Box 439, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060. Express mail should be sent to Army Entertainment Division, Attention: BRAVO! Auditions, 6091 Jackson Loop Bldg. 1434, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060.

For more details, call Higdon at (703) 806-3698, DSN 656-3698 or e-mail timothy.higdon@cfsc.army.mil. Rehearsals are scheduled for May 3 through June 16 at Fort Belvoir's Wallace Theater, where the play will open with performances June 17-19. Admission is free and open to the public.

Editor's note: Tim Hipps writes for U.S. Army Community and Family Support Center Public Affairs.



Photo by Tim Hipps

PERFORMING ARTS— Spc. James Dreussi, Spc. Donnie George and Staff Sgt. Joseph Madison recently delivered "The History of America (abridged)" to Soldiers deployed in the Middle East. BRAVO! Army Theatre now needs a new cast and crew for its summer production, "Pvt. Wars" by James McClure.

NCO Academy team hopes to keep momentum

Preseason tourney champ short-handed this week

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor
skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil

The NCO Academy has momentum but was short-handed as the volleyball season began Monday night.

“My guys go out for training (this week) and I don’t think they’ll be able to break free to go play volleyball,” David Beier, the team’s coordinator, said. “We’ve got a pretty good outlook with the team that we’ve got but I’m recruiting more from other classes.”

The academy beat the Marines 21-14, 21-14 on April 11 for the preseason tour-

nament championship.

“We started out kind of slow. But as the game progressed, NCO Academy got their rhythm,” Beier said.

Team members include player-coach Joseph Dobeck, Tyson Henry, Stephan Tetreault, Luke Plant, Nathan Bressler, Issac Allender, Foster Folger, Samuel Luebbe and Jason Gerber.

Seven teams are competing in the season which continues through May 10. The Eastern Conference includes the NCO Academy, Bravo Company, HHC 59th and Headquarters & Alpha. Western Conference teams are Delta Company, Charlie Company and the Marines. Delta is the defending post champion.

Games are Monday through Thursday nights at 6, 6:45 and 7:30 at Pagano Gym. The postseason tournament begins May 12.



Photo by David Beier

MAKING RETURN— NCO Academy’s Foster Folger prepares to return a serve during the second game of the preseason final against the Marines.

War wounded cheer D.C.’s new baseball team’s win

By MICHAEL E. DUKES

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — About 70 Walter Reed patients, who are recovering from injuries while serving in the Global War on Terrorism, were treated to a night out at the ballpark to see the Washington Nationals defeat the Arizona Diamondbacks here April 14.

While three Walter Reed buses delivered the patients from the hospital to the doorsteps of RFK Stadium, some people stopped on the sidewalks to wave or salute them. These supportive gestures didn’t go unnoticed by the patients behind the buses’ tinted windows, many of the patients smiled with pride.

A few of the patients attending the game were in wheelchairs, some walked with leg braces or crutches, one was blind, and most of the rest bore the scars and injuries of a wounded warrior.

Once the buses arrived at the stadium, some patients shook their heads as they saw mobs of thousands of fans making their way to the entry way. But the war wounded wouldn’t have to worry about waiting in hour-long lines or go through the hassles of metal detectors on the way in. They were given VIP treatment by U.S. Secret Service and U.S. Marshals who parted a sea of fans in red caps and jerseys so the wounded warriors could bypass the lines and metal detectors. Many of the patients had



Photo by Michael E. Dukes

BIG HIT— Washington Nationals third baseman Vinnie Castilla hits a home run against the Diamondbacks in the sixth inning.

enough metal inside them anyway that it would have drove the security guards crazy trying to search them as they entered the stadium.

Once in the stadium and as the national anthem began to play, all the patients, except those in wheelchairs, stood proudly as 130 D.C. National Guard held a giant American flag which covered most of the outfield. As a formation of four Air National Guard fighter jets flew overhead, fire-

works blasted up from the top of the stadium.

After President George W. Bush threw out the Nationals’ first home pitch, the stadium erupted in a roar of jubilation. It had been more than 30 years since the nation’s capital has had its own Major League Baseball team.

Sitting in the 400 section beside first base, Staff Sgt. Gary Jackson, a Soldier wounded while serving in Iraq, said he was elated to be at the game.

“I’m a huge baseball fan,” he said with a smile.

Jackson, a Vermont native who has been receiving care at Walter Reed since June 2004, said living in Vermont he had always been a Montréal Expos fan in the past, even though they didn’t win many games or sell very many tickets. “Now that I am in D.C., it’s great to have my team now playing here as the Nationals.”

He said it looked like their

game was on and he was happy to see their popularity in D.C. Almost 46,000 fans turned up to support their new team.

Spc. Kenny Smith and Master Sgt. Tracy Evans, two other Operation Iraqi Freedom patients in attendance, both agreed they were having a good time at the game, and that it was nice to get away from the hospital for some fun and excitement.

When Nationals third baseman Vinnie Castilla lofted a homer over the left-field wall everyone in the stadium jumped up in celebration. “That one’s in the bullpen,” said Smith while he clapped his hands and banged his noise sticks together.

The Nationals beat the Diamondbacks 5-3.

On the ride home, patients talked with each other about their favorite moments and about the souvenirs they picked up at the stadium.

The complementary trip, which included tickets to the game, red Nationals baseball caps, and \$20 in vouchers for food and drinks at the concession stands were courtesy of the Yellow Ribbon Fund Inc., a Kensington, Md.-based charity to support America’s men and women in uniform.

Walter Reed’s Morale Welfare and Recreation office facilitated the trip to the game.

Editor’s note: Michael Dukes writes for the Walter Reed Army Medical Center public affairs office.

Guard car near top in Nextel Cup standings

By Master Sgt. BOB HASKELL
Army News Service

ARLINGTON, Va. – It's hard not to notice the National Guard these days if you are watching the news about Iraq and Afghanistan – and if you are into NASCAR racing.

Army National Guard Soldiers from all over America are featured in many reports from the frontlines because so many of them are engaged in Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom fighting the Global War on Terrorism.

The Guard is also a major presence in NASCAR with the National Guard car, No. 16, driven by Greg Biffle, placed No. 2 in the early-season standings for the Nextel Cup, the premier series for the National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing.

The National Guard's presence in NASCAR has provided a significant boost to the Guard's efforts to recruit new people and to retain experienced Soldiers and Airmen, according to marketing experts.

Car 16, a Ford that is bearing the National Guard's red, white and blue colors for a second Nextel season, was 160 points behind leading driver Jimmie Johnson after the April 10 Advance Auto Parts 500 at the Martinsville Speedway in Virginia.

Biffle has driven the Guard car to one victory on Feb. 27 in the Auto Club 500 at the California Speedway. He has also finished in the top five in two races and finished in the top 10 in two others. Biffle sped to a victory in California during the season's second Nextel race, a week after finishing 25th in the Daytona 500.

Going into the April 17 Samsung/Radio Shack 500 at the Texas Motor Speedway, 35-year-old Biffle was leading such NASCAR superstars as Jeff Gordon, Rusty Wallace, Dale Earnhardt Jr. and Kyle Petty.

Biffle and the Roush Racing team, who run car 16, are off to a considerably faster start in 2005 than last year when they won two races during the second half of the season and ended their first Nextel season in 17th place.

Finishing the Nextel season in 17th place was a respectable showing, but being No. 2 is a lot better for the National Guard's image, said Chief Warrant Officer Rick Martin, the acting chief for advertising in the Army National Guard's Strength Maintenance Division.

"The National Guard Race Team is, without question, showing those that may not know it, that the National Guard is a top-quality organization with a unique identity within our Army community," said Martin.

"The National Guard has risen to No. 2 in NASCAR. That's not an easy thing to do," he added.

"Essentially car 16 and its team are making it possible for us to partner with many agencies that we advertise with and allowing our partners to do things for us that wouldn't be possible otherwise," said Martin.

The car's presence in NASCAR, which has the second-largest television viewing audience in sports, leads to valuable "branding" and improving awareness of the National Guard among the 18-34 age



National Guard Bureau photo

NEAR THE TOP— Car 16, primarily sponsored by the National guard, holds second place in the Nextel Cup standings after the first six races of this NASCAR season.

group, said Heather Glass, the racing team's marketing director. She said this may help with recruiting.

"Persuading people to join the National Guard and providing leads about potential recruits for the 54 states and territories are the primary focus of advertising at the National Guard Bureau," said Martin. "We use car 16 in many different ways to generate those leads."

The Guard is the primary advertising sponsor for car 16, but six other companies have signed on as associate sponsors for this season, Martin explained. The largest is Post-it, the notepad company, which is an associate sponsor for nine of the season's 36 Nextel Cup races.

Post-it is placing National Guard displays in national chains such as Wal-Mart, Target, Office Depot and Staples, Glass said. The displays give the National Guard and Post-it exposure to millions of more people than NASCAR fans alone.

Other organizations are also getting a piece of the action.

Advance Auto Parts sponsored the April 10 race in Martinsville and made it possible for a unit of National Guard Soldiers serving in Iraq to say "Gentlemen, start your engines" over a live television hookup before the race got under way.

There is also the loyalty factor which helps with retention, Glass said. "People who are in the Guard can identify with one car, one team, one driver. Being able to cheer for their National Guard car helps give them a sense of family," she said.

One thing has become clear during the first two months of this NASCAR season: Greg Biffle and the National Guard's car 16 are giving the Guard quite a lot to cheer about.

Editor's note: Master Sgt. Bob Haskell writes for the National Guard Bureau in Arlington, Va.

Nemechek gets top ten finish at Martinsville

By Maj. WILLIAM THURMOND
Army News Service

MARTINSVILLE, Va. – Soldiers are quite familiar with the Warrior ethos that says, "I will never quit."

In Martinsville April 10, the Army NASCAR team demonstrated that they, too, know how to battle through adversity and get the job done.

While Joe Nemechek finished the Advance Auto Parts 500 in the 10th position, the same spot where he started the race 263 miles earlier, it could have been a lot worse. All afternoon, mechanical and tire problems conspired to disappoint the team for the third weekend in a row.

The race victory belonged to Jeff Gor-

don, who posted his second win for the year. Following Gordon was Kasey Kahne, who for the fifth time finished second in NEXTEL Cup competition. Rounding out the top five were Mark Martin, Ryan Newman and Rusty Wallace.

"We ground our way to a top ten today," Nemechek said. "The Army car was strong early and then it got really loose and we went (to) the rear of the field. Once we put on four new tires the car started to haul. We were on a move and then the right front tire went down and I got into the wall. That was another setback that we had to overcome.

"But we stayed patient. The guys did a great job in the pits and we managed to avoid any big trouble."



Photo by Maj. William Thurmond

TURN TWO— The Army 01 Chevrolet rounds turn two at Martinsville during the Advance Auto Parts 500.



Sports & Recreation

Ten-miler tryouts

Team Redstone will have tryouts for its Army Ten-Miler team 7 a.m. June 25 and July 9 on a 10-mile course that begins and ends in the parking lot at Sparkman Fitness Center. The team is to have six military – including active duty, National Guard and Reserves – and four civilian members. The 21st annual race is Oct. 2 in Washington, D.C. For more information, call Skip Vaughn 876-1500 or Alexander Steel 876-3867.

Football camp

Seattle Seahawks lineman Walter Jones will give a free football camp, the first of what is to become an annual event, May 28 at the Jones Estate, 2699 Jeff Road in Harvest. This camp is for ages 8-13 and 14-18. Registration is Saturday (April 23) from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Dick's Sporting Goods, 6275 University Drive. For more information, call Geneva McCrary 679-1400.

Bowling challenge

Want to get back at the Provost Marshal Office? The office issues a bowling challenge to any Redstone team – military, civilian or contractor – as a fund-raiser for Army Emergency Relief. Five-member teams are preferred but smaller groups are also welcome. "Males, females, mixed – it doesn't matter. And it's all for a good cause, AER donations," organizer Lee Henry said. For more information and to sign up a bowling team, call Henry 876-4285 or Lt. Kenny Renew 876-2222.

Golf tournament

A golf tournament fund-raiser for Big Brothers Big Sisters will be held Friday with a shotgun start at noon at Colonial Golf Course. Call 880-2123 to register or go to www.bbbsna.com.

Bowling tournament

The Army Emergency Relief bowling tournament is noon Thursday at Redstone Lanes. Tickets are \$10. Call Don Slagle 876-3445 or Lynn Moore 955-6001.

Pineapple Open

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club will host the 11th annual Pineapple Open Golf Tournament on April 29 at the Redstone Golf Course. Registration will begin

at 7 a.m. A rain date has been set for May 6. The entry fee is \$45 for MWR golf members and \$60 for non-members. The entry fee deadline is April 22. For more information, call Gail Askew 726-0156.

Senior softball

Slow-pitch senior softball, under auspices of the Huntsville Senior Center and Huntsville Recreational Services, will begin for men over age 55. All games and practices are held at Brahan Spring Field 4. The season starts May 16 with games Mondays and Thursdays at 6 p.m. and 7:15. Practices are Saturdays, Mondays and Thursdays at 10 a.m. until season start. If interested call Ray Beverly 859-7419 or Fred Garcia 883-1135.

RDEC 5K

RDEC 5K Run and Fun Walk, a fund-raiser for Army Emergency Relief, is May 10 at 9:30 a.m. at the PT track off Corporal Road.



Photo by Rod Johnson

Honor student

Christopher Martin, a sophomore honor student and band member at Buckhorn High, was selected to attend the Congressional Student Leadership Conference held in Washington, D.C. during spring break. The selection was based on his academics and community service. He is the son of Freddie Martin of Logistics Support Activity and Mae Martin of Benchmark Electronics.

Entry fee \$15 includes T-shirt and refreshments. Rain date is May 11. Call Wynema Wooten 842-2775, Carolyn Farmer 876-3810 or Justin Olander 842-2769.

Sports ball

The eighth annual Sports Ball, a formal affair, is May 14 at 6 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Cost is \$20 for adults, \$10 for ages 10 and under, with checks made payable to the Officers and Civilians Club. The New South Coalition is this year's sponsor. The organizers are parents, Alabama A&M University alumni and others who get together to support local children in furthering their education through scholarships nationwide. "My father, Charles Cooke, a World War II veteran, created the program on behalf of my daughter Marion Jones, a former J.O. Johnson High track student," said Connie Jones, the event's co-founder. Anyone interested in sponsoring a student should call Jones 859-4850 or the Officers and Civilians Club 842-0449 or 830-2582.

Fishing rodeo

Outdoor Recreation will hold an Earth Day Fishing Rodeo on Saturday at Easter Posey Recreation Area. Weigh-in is 2 p.m. All ages are welcome to participate. There will be prizes, as well as hamburgers and hot dogs served for lunch. For more information, call 876-0901.



Conferences & Meetings

Men singers

The Rocket City Chorus, a chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society, meets every Thursday at 7 p.m. in the Aldersgate Methodist Church Fellowship Hall, 12901 Bailey Cove Road. For more information, call John Gonzalez 842-2992 (work) or 852-2408 (home).

Warrant officers

The Warrant Officer Association, Redstone Arsenal Chapter invites all warrant officers to attend its meetings the second Wednesday of each month at 11:30 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Chapter activities and information can be viewed at <http://www.redstonewarrants.com/>. For more information, call retired Chief Warrant Officer Tommy Vaden 955-0886.

Air Force association

The Tennessee Valley Chapter of the Air

Force Association invites all former and any present Air Force members, reservists or ANG to the Firehouse Pub for an informal gathering on the last Thursday of each month at 5 p.m. "AFA membership is not required to participate and we encourage anyone who has worn the blue suit to stop by and enjoy the camaraderie," a prepared release said. For information call Terry Roop (256) 230-0396 after 6 p.m.

Logistics support conference

The annual Army Integrated Logistics Support Conference is May 3-5 at Bob Jones Auditorium. This event is sponsored by ASA (ALT) ILS Directorate, the Logistics Support Activity and the International Society of Logistics. To register and see an agenda, go to the Tennessee Valley Chapter of the International Society of Logistics home page www.hats.org/sole. For more information call Randy Gibbs 313-2942, Debbie Baugh 955-0963, Jane Reeves (334) 663-6762, or Kurt Weidenthal 464-5351, ext. 214.

Contracting forum

DCMA Huntsville will hold a Government-Contractor Forum May 17-18 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Bob Jones Auditorium. For information e-mail Lorena Henderson at warfighter@dcma.mil.

Transition workshop

The Transition Center, Military Personnel Division, Human Resources Directorate, Garrison hosts a three-day transition workshop once each month in building 3493 for personnel transitioning out of the military or leaving civil service, military retirees and family members of all. In this workshop, various service providers brief on retirement and separation benefits as well as resume preparation and preparation for interviews and how to dress. To reserve a seat for May 17-19, call Tanelia Jackson 842-2718.

Engineers society

The Huntsville Post of the Society of American Military Engineers meets for lunch Thursday at Wild Flour Bistro, Jordan Lane. Susan Walker of the Flint River Conservation Association is to speak on "Environmental Sustainability and Stewardship." Check in is 11:30 a.m. with lunch at noon. The meal cost is pay as you go. For reservations call Laura Beth Quick 895-1302.

See Announcements on page 24

Administrative professionals

Administrative assistants, office coordinators, executive secretaries and other types of administrative staff in the greater Huntsville area are invited to network with other professionals during the second annual "Pride in Professionalism" seminar and education forum April 26 from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the Huntsville Hilton. This event is sponsored by the Huntsville Chapter of the International Association of Administrative Professionals. Keynote speaker Judy Kehr of Bessemer State Technical College is to open with the topic "Essential Qualities of a Team Player." Concurrent workshops will include "The Indispensable Assistant - Tech Know How"; "Smart Women Finish Rich"; "Public Speaking"; "How to Market Yourself and Your Company" and more. Late registration is \$95 until Thursday. For more information and to register, call Paulette Bell 824-6100.

Young business leaders

Young Business Leaders, a ministry to men in the marketplace, will hold its first breakfast meeting of 2005 on April 29 at 6:30 in the morning at the Huntsville Marriott. James "Micky" Blackwell, a consultant to several corporations and policy groups, is scheduled speaker. Cost is \$15. To RSVP, call Bob Boerner 882-6003 by April 25.

Sergeants major

Sergeants Major Association will hold its monthly meeting Thursday morning from 6:30-7:30 in the Twickenham Room at the Officers and Civilians Club. For more information, call retired Command Sgt. Maj. Jean Rose 313-1659.

Reserve association

Fleet Reserve Association Branch 278 will have its monthly meeting at noon Saturday at Greenbrier Barbecue on I-565, ext. 3. For information call Gene Aittala (256) 773-6283 or Jim Sutton 650-5748.

Officers association

Huntsville Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will hold its informal monthly breakfast Saturday at 8 a.m. at Victoria's Cafe, 7540 Memorial Parkway southwest. The chapter's monthly luncheon meeting is 11 a.m. April 27 at the Officers and Civilians Club with scheduled speaker Col. Tim Crosby, cargo helicopter project manager. For more information, call retired Air Force Maj. Steve Crawley 883-2323.

Test week

The Defense Test Resource Management Center will sponsor Test Week 2005, "The Major Range and Test Facility Base: How Should It Transform to Meet the Needs of the Warfighter?" June 6-9 at the Von Braun Center South Hall. Registration fee is \$325 for all attendees. For information call Sherry Hilley 842-6715.

Process improvement workshop

The Software Engineering Directorate is sponsoring a free Practical Acquisition Process Improvement Implementation Workshop, April 28 from noon to 3:30 at SED, building 6263. "This workshop was developed with DoD Acquisition work force personnel in mind, to include: program management office personnel, matrixed functionals, and those working in all aspects of systems, software, and



Photo by Skip Vaughn

PIF open house

Danny Featherston, right, acting program manager of the Prototype Integration Facility, talks with Don Dixon of Civilian Personnel Advisory Center during the facility's open house Friday. The event also celebrates delivery of the first tactical operations centers for the 4th Stryker Brigade Combat Team to Fort Lewis, Wash.

hardware acquisition," a prepared release said. Registration is required. For more information and to register, call Mamie Morgan 890-4514 or e-mail mamie.morgan@L-3com.com.

Federally employed women

North Alabama Chapter of Federally Employed Women will hold its monthly meeting Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club, Regimental Room. For more information, call Donna Rigsby 313-3021.

Contracting seminar

National Contract Management Association, Huntsville Chapter will hold a seminar on cost principles May 5 from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Camber Corporation, 635 Discovery Drive. Cost is \$40. To register call Lisa Hubbard 922-3527 by May 2.

Operations research section

Redstone Arsenal-Huntsville Military Operations Research Section will meet April 27 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Huntsville Hilton sunroom. Bill Anderson, investment adviser for Edward Jones Investments, is to speak on "Market Sensitivity - This Time is Different." RSVP by noon Monday with Jean Graffagnini 876-9041 or Greg Lewis 964-4521.



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 25B/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 manage-

ment, 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 have merged into the 25B career group and convert to 25B/74B as well. To schedule an interview, call Victor Marshall 313-0168.

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 Carl Washington 876-2082. Contractors and other interested people can access www.cpol.army.mil for openings and opportunities for overseas employment.

Surplus sales

Marshall Space Flight Center's surplus property can be purchased through the General Services Administration sales web site. Go to www.gsaauctions.gov, search by State of Alabama; and there you will find items located at MSFC and other federal agencies in Alabama to bid on. For more information, call 544-4667.

Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop, building 3209 on Hercules Road, is open for shopping 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesdays and 9-4 Wednesdays and Thursdays. Walk-in consignment hours are Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 9-1. Military personnel and their families may call the manager for an

appointment. The shop is accepting spring and summer items. Donations are accepted and tax slips are available. Volunteers are needed. For more information, call 881-6992.

Association scholarship

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter of the Warrant Officer Association will present a \$1,000 scholarship. Application packets must be received before May 1 in order to be considered. Completed application packets should be mailed directly to: RAWOA Scholarship Program, c/o Chief Warrant Officer Richard Storie, 102 Trevor Circle, Toney, AL. 35773. Applications will be accepted from the children (natural and adopted), dependent stepchildren under age 21 (seniors in high school or currently enrolled college freshmen) of members of the active, National Guard, reserve, and retired military and DoD civilians in the Tennessee Valley area. Awards will be announced by June 15. To download a packet and application form, go to www.redstonewarrants.com.

Computer classes

The Employment Readiness Program offers free self-paced computer tutorials to military family members who would like to develop or enhance their computer skills. Other members of the military community, including active duty personnel, retirees and civilian employees may take advantage of this training on a space available basis. Classes are available for Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Publisher, Outlook, Access, and Windows XP. A certificate of completion is issued upon successful completion of each course. For more information, call Debra Jefferson at Army Community Service 876-5397.

Enlisted scholarships

The Huntsville Chapter of the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association has a number of scholarship opportunities available for undergraduates and graduates. Scholarships are available for military personnel, working students and students enrolled in SROTC. For more information, go to <http://www.afcea.org/scholarships>.

Defense association honors

The Tennessee Valley Chapter of the National Defense Industrial Association announces the opening of nominations for its annual awards program to recognize the accomplishments of the local Defense Industrial Base work force. The chapter will recognize these individuals with an Annual Awards Banquet on the evening of April 28 at the Marriott Space Park. The chapter is accepting nominations for its Medaris Award, two Defense Management Awards and four Defense Technical Awards. These nationally-recognized awards will be presented as will the recipients of two book scholarships given by the chapter to Alabama A&M University and UAH and the recipients of five fellowships given by the Space and Missile Defense Working Group. More information on the 2005 Awards Program and the nomination process can be found at www.ndia-tvc.org.

Labor law symposium

North Alabama Chapter of the Federal Bar Association is sponsoring the third

annual Labor Law Symposium on Thursday at the Sheraton Four Points Hotel. Cost is \$125 for FBA members and \$175 for non-members. "This is a one-day symposium and we are seeking to get 6 hours of continuing legal education credits from both the Tennessee and Alabama state bar associations," a prepared release said. "We have two Merit Systems Protection Board judges, one Equal Employment Opportunity Commission judge, and our own local U.S. Magistrate judge, Harwell Davis, as speakers. The other two speakers are Joyce Kitchens, an attorney from Atlanta, and Lt. Col. Margo Stone, chief of the civil law division of the Air Force Judge Advocate School at Maxwell AFB." For more information, call Margaret Simmons 895-1101.

Car wash benefit

The Evening Optimist Club will hold its annual car wash to benefit the Youth of Huntsville, May 22 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Lee's Magic Tunnel Car Wash, 2318 Memorial Parkway southwest. Cost is \$7 for wash and sealer wax (\$13.50 value). In case of rain, the event would be held June 5. For information or tickets, call Bob Allen 772-5966.

AER book sale

Command Analysis Directorate's annual book sale for Army Emergency Relief is April 25-29 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Sparkman building 5300, first floor corridor between 5303 and 5304. Books, books-on-tape, CDs, DVDs and videotapes can be contributed through April 26 by calling Brian Barry 876-5743.

Workers' compensation session

The Injury Compensation Office, in the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, will conduct a Workers' Compensation information session at request. If your organization wishes to schedule a session at your location choice, call Debra Hammond 842-9038 or Kim Stoufer 876-5294.

Aviation association scholarships

The Army Aviation Association of America offers scholarships and interest free loan opportunities to eligible children, spouses and siblings of AAAA members. Certain scholarships are also dedicated to enlisted, warrant officer, company grade officers and Army civilian members. Application deadline for academic year 2005-06 is May 1. Sponsor AAAA membership must have been activated by May 1, 2004 for 2005-06 applications. For specific application information/forms visit the AAAA web site at www.quad-a.org, email aaaa@quad-a.org, or call (203) 268-2450. For Tennessee Valley Chapter scholarship or membership information, call Tom Harrison, vice president for scholarships (256) 964-8460, ext. 103, or Mike Carden, vice president for membership, 461-6039.

Infantry reunion

Veterans of the 88th Infantry (Blue Devil) Division and Trieste U.S. Troops (TRUST) are invited to join the Southeastern Chapter, 88th Infantry Division Association, at its 50th reunion April 28 to May 1 at the Holiday Inn Columbus North in Columbus, Ga. For more information, call Robert McCall 881-6325.

Job fair

A "Job Fair" will be held April 26 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Challenger Community Activity Center, building 1500. This

event is open to all military spouses, military retirees, transitioning Soldiers, National Guard and Reservists returning from the war on terrorism. This is an opportunity to meet with several employers in one location for employment consideration. For more information, call Debra Jefferson of Army Community Service 876-5397.

Historic homes tour

Civilian Welfare Fund Council is selling tickets to Alabama's Largest Antebellum District Historic Homes Tour. The tour May 7 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. includes five private homes, two residential gardens, the First Presbyterian Church and Weeden House Museum featuring vintage wedding gowns. You may purchase tickets for \$15 by calling Randy Bigler 955-0505 by May 4.

Voices from past

On May 8 from 2-4:30 p.m., the Huntsville Pilgrimage Association is sponsoring Voices from Past Times - Maple Hill Cemetery Stroll with more than 80 Huntsville residents in period costumes representing notables from the past, most of whom are buried at Maple Hill. This event is free to the public. Donations are welcome. For more information about Pilgrimage Weekend, May 7-8, call Margaret Strickland 533-5723 or Gwen Walker 551-9872.

Summer camp

Child and Youth Services is conducting summer camp registration through May 15 from 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at building 1500 on Weeden Mountain Road. Youth whose parent/guardian are military, retired military, DoD, Army, Redstone contractor or NASA employees are eligible to participate. Registration cost is \$18 per person or \$40 per family. Required registration items include a current immunization record and the child's Social Security number. For more information, call 876-7801.

Cadet scholarships

Col. Michael E. Johnson, president of the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Air Defense Artillery Association, will present scholarships for academic and military achievement to two Alabama A&M University Army ROTC Advanced Course cadets. Cadet Jessie Mooney, a Military Science III student, will be given a check for \$1,000; and Cadet Brian Kitching, a Military Science IV student, will be awarded \$500. The awards program is 2:30 p.m. Thursday in the university's School of Business multipurpose room.

Anxiety disorders

To help individuals learn about anxiety disorders, their symptoms and effective treatments, the Mental Health Center of Madison County and the Mental Health Association will hold a free program and screening May 4 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Huntsville Hospital Corporate University.

PX sales

The Post Exchange announces the following: Texier Purse event through May 10, Lighting Bazaar through May 15, Whirlpool Kitchenaid appliance sale April 15-24 and Oriental Rug Bazaar April 26 through May 19.

Arts and crafts classes

The Arts and Crafts Center offers the fol-

lowing classes: April 23, Matting & Framing Class; and April 25, Woodturning for Beginners. Prerequisites and advance registration may apply for some of these classes. For class times and prices, call 876-7974.

Garage sale

Morale Welfare and Recreation will host a post-wide garage sale from 8 a.m. until noon May 7. The garage sale — open to the entire Redstone community (active duty and retired military, and civilian and contract employees) — will be held at the south end of the Post Exchange parking lot. Permits to sell items may be purchased for \$5 at the Diane Campbell Recreation Center, building 3711. All items being sold must be personally owned or used and sellers must be in place by 7:45 that morning. No vendors will be allowed. For more information, call 876-4531.

Mentoring program

The G-1 (Human Resources) is accepting mentor and mentee applications until Friday for those interested in volunteering to participate in the AMCOM People Empowering People Mentoring Program. This program is open to all AMCOM permanent civilian employees. The next six month mentoring cycle will be conducted from May to October. In order to apply, interested participants will complete a mentoring application used to match mentees to mentors. The applications are in the Mentoring Handbook, posted on the AMCOM intranet web site, under subject index "M." Submit applications to Cheryl Wise at AMSAM-HR or e-mail to cheryl.wise@redstone.army.mil. For more information, call Wise 876-6062.

Free seminars

Free seminars are open to all active duty, retired, civil service, contractors and their family members. Titles for some of the seminars include: Basic Problem Solving, Supporting your Child's Education and Benefits, Entitlements and Compensation, to name a few. The seminar will take place May 3-5 from 6-9 p.m. in building 3325 on Redeye Road. Dinner and child care will be provided with advance registration. For more information or to register, call 842-8375.

Women investors

Shari Burnum, president of Investor's Resource and branch manager of Raymond James Financial Services Inc., is hosting a "For Women Only" luncheon Thursday from 11:30-12:30 at the Palladium Executive Building in Madison. The topic this month is "Alzheimer's and Caregiving" and will include a Q&A with the regional director of the Alzheimer's Association. Lunch will be catered by Main Street Cafe. Cost is \$10. Call Rachel Caudle 772-4646 to reserve your seat.

ROTC ball

The Alabama A&M University ROTC Battalion will host its annual ROTC Ball on Friday at 5:30 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Scheduled speaker is retired Chief Warrant Officer Michael



Durant, author of "In the Company of Heroes: A True Story." Durant and his fellow comrades' survival of the 1993 battle in Mogadishu, Somalia was captured in the 2001 movie "Black Hawk Down." The attire for this event is semi-formal/formal. There is no charge for the event. Tickets may be reserved by calling Cadet Brian Kitching 603-7664.

Barbershop jazz show

The Rocket City Chorus will present a show on barbershop harmony and jazz April 30 at 7:30 p.m. at the Lee High auditorium. Scheduled guests include the Lee High Trouveres Jazz Ensemble, Ringside Quartet from Memphis and local quartets Karizzma, Familiar Ring, Strictly Class, and Audio Radiance. For more information, call 851-7552.

PX news

Marvel's newest comic book is scheduled to hit Redstone Arsenal on Friday. Available for free exclusively at Army and Air Force Exchange Service facilities, the 24-page comic book features the adventures of the New Avengers and the Fantastic Four. The "New Avengers," the heroes in the comic, are the Soldiers and Airmen of the United States military. Due to the price (free) and limited availability, Post Exchange general manager Carl Carpenter doesn't expect the copies to stay in the store for long. "The collector community is extremely interested in a limited edition offering of this nature," he said. "A limited run of only a million copies virtually guarantees that these comic books will be in high demand." Because of the anticipated demand, AAFES officials advise that the comic book is available on a first-come, first-served basis. "When they're gone, they're gone," Carpenter said. Authorized AAFES customers and their family members can pick up a complimentary copy of "The New Avengers Guest Starring the Fantastic Four" at the Post Exchange beginning Friday.

Spring formal

An "Evening to Remember" formal event, sponsored by the Civilian Welfare Fund Council and Morale Welfare and Recreation, is 6 p.m. April 30 at the Officers and Civilians Club. Scheduled guest speaker is Lt. Gen. Richard Hack, Army Materiel Command deputy commander. The 313th Army Band will provide entertainment. Cost is \$15 per person for E-7 to E-9 and GS-5 to GS-8, \$18 for 01-03 and GS-9 to GS-12, \$21 for 04-06 and GS-13 to GS-15 and \$24 for general officers, Senior Executive Service members and others. To RSVP, call Rochelle Feltmeyer of Protocol Office 842-0044 by Friday.

Scholarship offers

"If you are a high school student or a parent of a high school student, we have a wonderful resource for you; it's a huge listing of scholarship and financial aid web sites," says Pam Berry, youth education support services director. "It's not too late to plan for those exciting college years." If you would like these listings, call Berry 876-7801 or e-mail pam.berry@redstone.army.mil.

Flying activity

The Redstone Arsenal Flying Activity will have an open house May 14 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Admission is free. Mini flying lessons with a certified flight instructor are

Rockett Announcements

\$30 for adults and \$25 for children 12 and under. There will also be aviation videos, simulators, in addition to free food and drinks. This event is open to the entire Redstone community. For more information, call 880-9495 or 876-0237.

Jewelry sale

The Post Restaurant Fund sterling silver jewelry sale is April 26-28 at Sparkman Cafeteria, building 5309. All jewelry is up to 50 percent off. For more information, call 876-8741.

Performing arts

Madison Theatre Guild presents Tennessee Williams' classic "The Glass Menagerie" April 29-30 at 7:30 p.m. and April 30 at 2:30 p.m. at the Madison Senior Center on Hughes Road (beside Discovery Middle School). Tickets are \$10 for adults and can be purchased at Hartlex Antique Mall on Hughes or by calling 830-9805. Student, senior and group prices are available.

Master's degree programs

The University of Tennessee's executive education programs (both degree and executive development) will have an information reception May 9 from 3-7 p.m. at the Huntsville Marriott, 5 Tranquility Base. Meet and interact with program representatives and faculty from three master's of business administration programs (Aerospace MBA, Senior Executive MBA, and Professional MBA) and programming on Lean Enterprise, Process Improvement/six sigma, Supply Chain Management, and Leadership Development. These MBA programs are built for the working professional interested in obtaining the degree while maintaining their job. The non-degree executive development programs are designed for those interested in practical and application focused educational opportunities. For more information, visit <http://TheCenter.utk.edu> or call (865)974-5001.

Festival performers

The Big Spring Jam Music Festival is calling on local and regional music acts to apply to perform at this year's event scheduled Sept. 23-25 at Big Spring Park in Huntsville. Submissions will be accepted until May 15 and must include a music sample and biography sheet. Acts that have previously applied or performed are required to resubmit the music sample and bio. The mailing address for the materials is: Lindsey Jennings, c/o DJ Promotions Inc., 2120 Metro Circle, Huntsville, AL 35801.

Girl Scout project

Girl Scouts across north Alabama and southern Tennessee are joining forces to collect personal care items. All items collected will be donated to local shelters and non-profit agencies who have clientele in need of hygiene items. During April, Girl Scout troops will be distributing door hangers listing items that can be donated and pickup dates in local communities. In Huntsville items can be dropped off at 4704 Whitesburg Drive or Intergraph Building 200. For more information on Girl Scouts of North Alabama Inc.'s April Showers service project, call Betsy Allison 1-800-410-8338 or e-mail betsy.allison@girlscoutsofnorthalabama.org.

Family award

The National Military Family Association is accepting nominations for the NMFA

Family Award. The award program, now in its second year, recognizes 15 military families that exemplify the best of the military family lifestyle. Any active duty, National Guard, Reserve, and retired family of the seven uniformed services, as well as the families of fallen servicemembers, or families of wounded servicemembers who were injured on duty within the past three years and have since been discharged, are eligible to be nominated. Nominations will only be accepted online at <http://www.nmfa.org/> from through May 31. Winners will be notified by the end of June. One winning family will receive a grand prize of \$2,000 and a trip to Washington, D.C. to be honored at a reception with the program sponsor, Nestlé USA. The family will also have the opportunity to present a \$1,000 check to a

representative from the charity of its choosing whose work benefits military families. Additionally, NMFA will award \$1,000 to 14 other families and make a \$500 donation in the family's name to the charity they choose whose work benefits military families. For more information or to submit a nomination, visit the web site <http://www.nmfa.org/>.

Make a wish

Children's Wish Foundation International is a nonprofit organization that fulfills wishes for seriously ill children. For more information, call 1-800-323-WISH (9474).

Academy musical

Madison Academy will present the musical "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown," April 28-30 at 7 p.m. at the school, 325

Slaughter Road. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$7 for students. For ticket information, e-mail director Max Dashner at mdashner@academy.org.

Military pay update

The Military Pay Office is requesting that all Reserve Component Soldiers called to active duty in support of Contingency Operations schedule an appointment with the local office to recertify their Basic Allowance for Housing zip code. Appointments can be scheduled by calling Lito Valencia 876-7822. "This matter is of the utmost importance as it may affect the amount of BAH a Soldier receives (in most cases an increase and back pay are due)," a prepared release said. For more information call Sonya Morris, military pay chief, 876-1379.

ARMY POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS REDSTONE ARSENAL AND HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA AREA

ANNOUNCEMENTS	POSITION TITLE	CLOSING	ORGANIZATION	PAY PLAN	GRADE	POT	PAY RANGE	WHO CAN APPLY?																			
		DATE	LOCATION	& SERIES	LEVEL	GRD	(FROM - TO)	A	B	C	D	E	F	H	I	R	T	V	U								
THE FOLLOWING ARMY ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.CPOL.ARMY.MIL																											
SCBK05495434D	General Engineer	20-Apr-05	LOGSA	GS-0801	13	13	72,486 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05502309	Logistics Mgmt Specialist	20-Apr-05	IMMC	GS-0303	7	7	34,363 - 44,662	X																			
SCBK05496160D	Supv General Engineer	20-Apr-05	SMDC	GS-0801	15	15	100,756-130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05509226	Electrical Engineer	21-Apr-05	CoE Huntsville	GS-0850	12	12	60,955 - 79,238	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05509226D	Electrical Engineer	21-Apr-05	CoE Huntsville	GS-0850	12	12	60,955 - 79,238	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05475214R	Health Physicist (Leader)	21-Apr-05	TMDE	GS-1306	13	13	72,486 - 94,229	X																			
SCBK05491272	Civil Engr, Mech Engr, Elec Engr, Chem Engr	22-Apr-05	CoE Huntsville	GS-0810, 0830, 0850, 0893	13	13	72,486 - 94,229		X	X	X			X		X	X										
SCBK05501417	Lead Aerospace Engr	22-Apr-05	RDECOM	DB-0861	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05501417D	Lead Aerospace Engr	22-Apr-05	RDECOM	DB-0861	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05516627	Lead Human Resources Specialist (R&P/CLASS)	22-Apr-05	CHRA CPAC	GS-0201	13	13	72,486 - 94,229									X											
SCBK05502266	Logistics Mgmt Specialist	22-Apr-05	IMMC	GS-0301	13	13	72,486 - 94,229	X																			
SCBK05502280	Supply Systems Analyst	22-Apr-05	IMMC	GS-2003	12	12	60,955 - 79,238	X																			
SCBK05479181	Administrative Support Assistant (OA)	25-Apr-05	IMMC	GS-0303	6	6	30,923 - 40,201	X		X		X				X	X		X		X						
SCBK05475145	Program Manager	25-Apr-05	RDECOM	DE-0340	5	5	100,756-130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05475145D	Program Manager	25-Apr-05	RDECOM	DE-0340	5	5	100,756-130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05535562	Secretary (OA)	25-Apr-05	AMCOM G3	GS-0318	9	9	42,034 - 54,641	X																			
SCBK05496160	Supv General Engineer	25-Apr-05	SMDC	GS-0801	15	15	100,756-130,988		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05498810	Administrative Assistant	25-Apr-05	CoE Huntsville	GS-0341	7	9	34,363 - 54,641	X																			
SCBK05524634	Management Asst (OA)	25-Apr-05	OMEMS	GS-0344	6	6	30,923 - 40,201	X												X							
SCBK05539239	Secretary (OA)	25-Apr-05	THAAD Project Of.	NK-0318	3	3	38,056 - 60,181								X												
SCBK05490232	Supv Logistics Mgmt Sp.	25-Apr-05	IMMC	NH-0346	3	3	60,955 - 94,229	X																			
SCBK05360698	General Engineer	27-Apr-05	PEO COMBAT	NH-0801	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X		X				X		X	X		X	X	X						
SCBK05360698D	General Engineer	27-Apr-05	PEO COMBAT	NH-0801	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05545873	Electronics Engineer	28-Apr-05	RDECOM	DB-0855	3	3	60,955 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05545873D	Electronics Engineer	28-Apr-05	RDECOM	DB-0855	3	3	60,955 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05535973	Electronics Engineer	28-Apr-05	PEO COMBAT	NH-0855	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05535973D	Electronics Engineer	28-Apr-05	PEO COMBAT	NH-0855	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
WTST05543531	Equipment Specialist	29-Apr-05	TSMO	GS-1670	12	12	60,955 - 79,238	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
WTST05512092	Intelligence Specialist	29-Apr-05	I&SD	GG-0132	13	13	72,486 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05511963D	Materials Engineer	29-Apr-05	RDECOM	DB-0806	3	3	60,955 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05511963OC	Materials Engineer	29-Apr-05	RDECOM	DB-0806	3	3	60,955 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05469852	Procurement Analyst	29-Apr-05	CoE Huntsville	GS-1102	12	12	60,955 - 79,238	X																			
SCBK05508973	Safety Engineer	29-Apr-05	CoE Huntsville	GS-0803	13	13	72,486 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05508973D	Safety Engineer	29-Apr-05	CoE Huntsville	GS-0803	13	13	72,486 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05511751	Supv General Engineer	1-May-05	RDECOM	DB-0801	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05511751D	Supv General Engineer	1-May-05	RDECOM	DB-0801	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05509433	Equal Employment Specialist	5-May-05	Garrison-Redstone	GS-0260	11	11	50,858 - 66,115	X											X		X						
SCBK05516926	General Engineer	5-May-05	RDECOM	DB-0801	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05478802	IT Project Manager	5-May-05	Garrison-Redstone	GS-2210	13	13	64,478 - 83,819	X																			
SCBK05516926D	General Engineer	6-May-05	RDECOM	DB-0801	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05515420	Supv Logistics Mgmt Sp.	9-May-05	PEO Aviation	NH-0346	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05515420D	Supv Logistics Mgmt Sp.	9-May-05	PEO Aviation	NH-0346	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05539002	Human Resources Officer	12-May-05	CHRA CPAC	GS-0201	15	15	100,756-130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05507696	Supv Competition Analyst	16-May-05	AMCOM CMA	NH-0301	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X																			
SCBK05507696D	Supv Competition Analyst	16-May-05	AMCOM CMA	NH-0301	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05511963OC	Materials Engineer	29-Jun-05	RDECOM	DB-0806	3	3	60,955 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05377091OC	Safety and Occ Health Specialist	9-Aug-05	CoE Huntsville	GS-0018	11	11	50,858 - 66,115	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
THE FOLLOWING OPM/DEU ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.USAJOB.SOPM.GOV																											
SCBK05496160D	Supv General Engineer	20-Apr-05	SMDC	GS-0801	15	15	100,756-130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05509226D	Electrical Engineer	21-Apr-05	CoE Huntsville	GS-0850	12	12	60,955 - 79,238	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05501417D	Lead Aerospace Engr	22-Apr-05	RDECOM	DB-0861	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05475145D	Program Manager	25-Apr-05	RDECOM	DE-0340	5	5	100,756-130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05360698D	General Engineer	27-Apr-05	PEO COMBAT	NH-0801	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05535973D	Electronics Engineer	28-Apr-05	PEO COMBAT	NH-0855	4	4	85,656 - 130,988	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05545873D	Electronics Engineer	28-Apr-05	RDECOM	DB-0855	3	3	60,955 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05511963D	Materials Engineer	29-Apr-05	RDECOM	DB-0806	3	3	60,955 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
WTST05543531	Equipment Specialist	29-Apr-05	TSMO	GS-1670	12	12	60,955 - 79,238	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
WTST05512092	Intelligence Specialist	29-Apr-05	I&SD	GG-0132	13	13	72,486 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05508973D	Safety Engineer	29-Apr-05	CoE Huntsville	GS-0803	13	13	72,486 - 94,229	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X						
SCBK05511751D	Supv General Engineer	1-May-05	RDECOM	DB-0801	4	4																					