

Redstone Rocket

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Training day



Official game mission arrives
Page 6

Hobby lobby



Arts and
crafts
classes
form
Page 8

Headquarters news



Command suite lobby dedicated
Page 10

Pet corner



Racing to save greyhounds
Page 16

Win or lose

MEDDAC
hopes for
league title
Page 20



Combat veterans recall experiences

*They encourage support
for today's war fighters*

By **KARI HAWKINS**
Staff writer
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In wartime, the valor of the American Soldier has been put to the test over and over again – and it has never faltered.

From the American Revolution to today's Operation Iraqi Freedom, the American Soldier and the families who support them have built a long legacy of sacrifice and commitment to freedom.

But other institutions affecting the Soldier – primarily Congress and its attempts to bring an end to military actions – have often failed, leading to larger and more dangerous conflicts threatening the freedoms of America and its very existence.

In recognition of Veterans Day, two retired Soldiers – one a Vietnam veteran involved in 35 counter terrorism attacks as a member of the airborne and special operations units and the other known for the sacrifices he and his crew made during the Battle of Mogadishu and whose story was the basis for the movie "Black Hawk Down" – shared their feelings about the American Soldier during the Officer and Civilian Women's Club monthly luncheon at the Officers and Civilians Club.

In their comments, Army veterans John Reitzell and Mike Durant along with retired Army veteran Jeff Wishik, a co-presenter who had to send his comments in a note because of his recent surgery, praised "those who wear the uniform and fight the



Photo by Kari Hawkins

SHARING THOUGHTS— Army veterans Mike Durant, left, and John Reitzell answer questions following their presentation to members and guests of the Officer and Civilian Women's Club.

wars" along with the families who support them. But they also expressed their frustration with political leaders and government policies that fall short of the Soldier's sense of commitment and responsibility to ensure freedom and peace worldwide.

"I want to talk about sacrifice," Reitzell said, after describing for the audience his Army experiences.

"I want you to think about and pray about and understand what Veterans Day is all about. It's about sacrifice. This institution is founded on sacrifice. The Soldier's sacrifice is real in this profession and so, too, are the sacrifices made by families who watch their Soldier being deployed."

Those sacrifices began with the Revolutionary War, when 4,000 Soldiers were killed and 6,000 were wounded "to give us the living idea of what is America," Reitzell said.

Sacrifice continued through the War of 1812 and then during the Civil War, when 191,000 Soldiers were killed and twice that number were wounded.

World War I, the war to end all wars, ended with 53,000 American Soldiers killed and four times that number wounded. Its outcome eventually led to World War II, the second war to end all wars, during which 291,000 American Soldiers were killed and nearly 700,000 wounded.

But even WWII didn't bring an end to military actions throughout the world. In Korea, 33,000 American Soldiers were killed and 105,000 wounded. In Vietnam,

47,000 American Soldiers were killed and 153,303 were wounded.

A symbolic image of the Vietnam War – that of the last U.S. helicopter leaving the roof of the U.S. embassy in Saigon with South Vietnamese citizens trying to hang on to its supports – sent a dangerous message worldwide.

"We cut and ran and sent a signal to our enemies that if you stay with us long enough we will quit," Reitzell said.

Throughout history, America has shown the world if you "bloody our nose long enough we will cut and run," Reitzell said. "Our Soldiers are not supported enough ... We don't know how to finish (war), but we need to know how to finish (Operation Iraqi Freedom)."

He went on to describe several events during the 1980s and into the 1990s – the Iranian hostage crisis, the kidnapping of TWA flight 847, the Achille Lauro cruise line hijacking, the invasion of Kuwait and many others – that put American Soldiers and innocent citizens in danger as well as threatening the idea of world peace and freedom.

The U.S. has had difficulty fighting that threat throughout the 20th century and now into the 21st century, Reitzell and Durant said, because of the lack of a national will to stand up against terrorism and threats to world peace. Durant, who continued the presentation with the retelling of his story

See Veterans on page 7

An open lane random survey

How accurate are military movies?

By **KELLEY LANE**
Staff writer
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Staff Sgt. Walter Fowler

"I think they're about 60 percent true, depending on what the point of the movie is."



Maj. Michael Arizmendi

"It all depends on whether they use real-life officers and Soldiers for guidance. If they do, then there can be some level of realism in it. If they deviate from that then they may not be very accurate."



Carole Curtis
retiree spouse

"I don't think they're accurate at all. I think some are very derogatory and take a lot of things out of context."



Marne Gannon
retiree spouse

"I haven't seen any lately, so I don't know about them. The ones I have seen are too much Hollywood."



Quote of the week

'There's two theories to arguing with a woman. Neither one works.'

— Will Rogers

Give to make a difference

The Tennessee Valley Combined Federal Campaign is still accepting pledges. We know that our nation has been dealing with unprecedented natural disasters and we have been giving, giving and giving. Our contributions are still needed! Now more than ever our community, our nation and our world still need our support! We have more than 52 CFC agencies that have provided direct support to our hurricane victims. These same agencies now need our help to replenish their resources. We don't want to wait until a disaster happens to react — we want to ensure that resources are there when disasters do happen.

As little as \$5 a pay period can mean meals for hungry children, relief for families in need of counseling, further work for cures for diseases, comfort for the dying, aid in time of disas-

ters, and better lives and renewed hope for people in their time of need. If you have not filled out a pledge card yet, you still have time to do so.

We can process payroll contributions through Dec. 15 and we can process cash/check contributions through the end of December. Contact your organization's financial chairperson and complete your pledge card and help make a difference today. CFC is not about making goals — CFC is about helping people. Together we can make a difference!

"CFC — Compassion in Action" — let's make our slogan a reality here in the Tennessee Valley. If you have any questions, please contact the CFC Office at 842-1037.

Donna Johnson
chairman, Local Federal Coordinating Committee

Bicyclists have rights, too

I think it is about time for the Security Police to start cracking down on the offenders who have total disregard for the post speed limits. I lived and worked on the Arsenal for about five years and enjoyed every minute of it. Since I have retired from the military, I enjoy riding my bicycle on the Arsenal every chance I get. The scenery is beautiful and there are great roads to ride for many miles.

I take every precaution when I'm riding. I use halogen headlights and a

flashing red tail light when it gets dark, I always wear bright colored bicycle shirts, I use hand signals when I turn, slow down/stop at all intersections, and I have a rear view mirror on my glasses to help my visibility when cars are approaching from behind. I even try to take those back roads that are less traveled by vehicles.

The problem doesn't lie with the bicyclists, but the everyday drivers and

See **Bicyclists** on page 4

On target of opportunity

The letter "Rethinking policy in Iraq" appearing in the Nov. 9 *Rocket* read as a true revisionist's view of recent events in Iraq. The "premises for being over there" cited by the writer are flawed. The repeatedly stated purposes: liberate the Iraqi people; remove Saddam Hussein's regime from power in Baghdad; and search for weapons of mass destruction. "Mission accomplished" simply referred to the race to Baghdad having essentially accomplished the first two. If I recall correctly, the current

administration had not attempted to link Saddam to 9-11 as the writer apparently believes. If the writer and others believe there were no weapons of mass destruction, I recommend they access the web site www.2la.org/syrai/iraq-wmd.php and also obtain a copy of Richard Minter's "Disinformation" now on sale. For those who believe there was no connection between Saddam Hussein and al Qaeda, Minter's book is also recommended.

See **Target** on page 4

At odds with recent letters

You know what annoys me? (Some letters to the editor in the Nov. 9 *Redstone Rocket*.) "Rethinking policy in Iraq": Hey dude, who pays you? And then you can't even sign your name.

And what about "Confused about post privileges"? Each pump has a sign that reads "need ID Card," and why is the PX not checking this area? Another name withheld. Over one year a contractor on post and you don't know what is available to you. Puleeeeeeze...

And then there's Rideout Road in the morning. Why are we not monitoring the speeders from the gate to Martin Road? This is a race track for some of our so-called intelligent folks here at Redstone and NASA.

And the best is the "Veterans Day hours in the store." What is this guy's problem? He should, if he is veteran, be thankful for the Commissary and staff. And in his letter, who is "we"? Don't speak for me. But he did print his name.

And you can print my name.

Robert Davenport
retired Air Force

Distressing plan for veterans

In 1932, more than 20,000 World War I veterans marched on Washington in an attempt to obtain benefits from a government that felt no need to compensate them for their service. President Herbert Hoover called in the military and drove this "Bonus Army" out of town at the end of a bayonet.

See **Plan** on page 4

Dressing up for Halloween

On Nov. 9, the *Redstone Rocket* published a very offensive photo on page 3 to say the least. I marveled at a number of Halloween costumes that would have been more appropriate for the

See **Halloween** on page 4

Redstone Rocket

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Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
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Name: Pfc. Jamie Levingston

Job: Ammunition specialist, Charlie Company, 832nd Ordnance Battalion

Where do you call home?
Stockport, Ohio

What do you like about your job?
Wearing the uniform. You get a pride from wearing this uniform, helping out others. And you get to see the world.

What do you like to do in your spare time?
Draw, camp and fish.



What are your goals?
To go to college to become a lawyer.

What's your favorite football team?
Ohio State Buckeyes

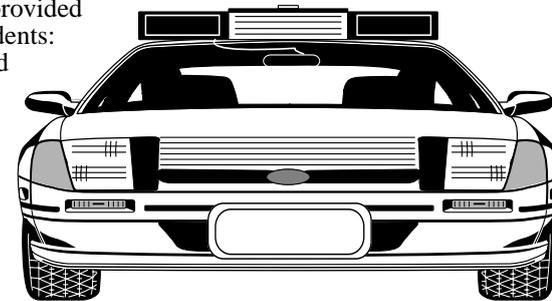
Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

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

Nov. 4: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license during an inspection at Gate 10. He was issued a violation notice and released.

Nov. 9: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license during an inspection at Gate 8. He was issued a violation notice and released.

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



Violation notices issued: 13 speeding, 3 parked in a handicapped parking space, 2 driving with a suspended/revoked license.

Drivers should share road

Bicyclists

continued from page 2

construction vehicles who can't seem to obey the posted speed limits and don't use their signals. The other day I rode between the hours of 2:30 and 4:30 p.m. and it was terrible. There seems to be a total disregard by the drivers for anybody or anything else on the road but themselves. Most of the vehicles came up fast from behind and continued on at the same speed leaving very little room between the bicycle and the vehicle.

If I recall, a few years ago a very hor-

rible incident occurred with a bicyclist being hit. I would think Redstone Arsenal would be more sensitive to this type of situation and make an effort to control the speeding. These drivers are dangerous. A little courtesy and patience can go a long way and everyone can be happy. It would also be great to see some paving done to provide road shoulders so the bicyclists have a chance to move over (especially on Patton Road all the way down to the recreation area) and save an accident/death from happening. Bicyclists have rights to use the roads and drivers need to aware of that.

Name withheld by request

Iraq bordered on threat

Target

continued from page 2

One should also remember that Iraq was somewhat a target of opportunity. The current administration and its analysts correctly recognized that Iraq being centrally located among middle eastern Islamic countries was an opportunity to thrust a dagger in the heart of radical Islamic fundamentalism. And, two-thirds of the country

was already under a 'no-fly zone' and we still had troops stationed in the southwest Asia area near Iraq's borders.

As for the billions of dollars proposed to rebuild New Orleans: Topographically, New Orleans was a 'disaster waiting to happen' before Katrina. Rebuilding New Orleans will be creating another 'disaster waiting to happen.'

Jim Keebler
general engineer

Veterans deserve full benefits

Plan

continued from page 2

Bayonets aren't pointed at us anymore, but they might as well be because the federal government is once again inflicting a tremendous injustice. Their target this time is 72,000 military veterans who have been diagnosed with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder, or PTSD.

The government's plan is to reduce or eliminate the benefits of those who are rated 100 percent disabled from an impairment that's just as debilitating as the worst physical wound.

What's just as egregious is the Department of Veterans Affairs won't look for ways to improve an adjudication system that has a 15-percent error rate. That means the VA won't reopen those PTSD claims that were denied or those that were approved with lesser ratings, nor will they hire additional employees to help reduce an outrageous backlog of more than 760,000 claims currently awaiting adjudication for compensation and pension, education, or are on appeal — a backlog that's almost 64,000 claims

higher than last year.

The VA is simply telling 72,000 veterans — who the government already deemed 100 percent disabled — to prove once again that they suffer from PTSD.

Americans respond to the fundamental principle of fairness. This PTSD review is not fair. It isn't fair to the veterans, it isn't fair to their families who also suffer, and it isn't fair to the 2.2 million people currently serving in uniform.

Last week, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S. sent a letter to Congress to enlist their support to stop the VA from conducting this review. I urge you to do the same, especially if your elected officials were speaking at local Veterans Day ceremonies last Friday. Ask them two questions: Where they stand on the PTSD review issue, and what they're doing in Congress to ensure veterans and military personnel programs are fully funded.

This country exists because of the selfless contribution of 48 million Americans who have worn the uniform. Let's never forget that.

Sgt. Adam Wyman Croan

Costume seen as offensive

Halloween

continued from page 2

occasion. I'm appalled that in 2005 we find it necessary to poke fun at the cross and a very painful part of our history. First, the gentleman pokes fun at the cross by wearing a huge one around his neck, and to add insult to injury, he partners the cross with a black version of the outerwear of the Ku Klux Klan. I was

totally un-amused and unable to chuckle behind actions so sacrilegious, disrespectful and insensitive. God is not pleased!

Name withheld upon request

Editor's note: The costume in question had nothing to do with race or religion. The wearer traditionally dresses in a scary costume for Halloween, and this year was no different.

Game day arrives at Software Engineering Directorate

Organization gets mission for Army's videogame

By DAN O'BOYLE
For the Rocket

Software Engineering Directorate has been named by the Army to manage the official Army game "America's Army," in which gamers can "experience authentic training and operate as a member of the world's most elite fighting force."

In a ceremony last week, John McLaurin, deputy assistant secretary of the Army for human resources, and Dr. Bill McCorkle, director of Research Development and Engineering Center, signed the management agreement.

"America's Army teaches how to operate systems and crosses a whole set of different needs and that's why it's being used for presenting expert training," Col. Casey Wardynski, the Army's program director, said. "It is used by the Army's medical department at Fort Sam Houston for the life-saving training and education of medical personnel. It is also being used by the 7th Army training center in Germany as a visualization tool so that before troops arrive they can see the training environ-

ment and how they will maneuver."

The game is also used at West Point for strategic communication with potential recruits about being Soldiers.

"Doing it this way allows us to share all these resources," Wardynski said. "For example, all the scenes in the game are geo-typical, such as the route from Camp Victory, near the Baghdad airport to Green Zone in downtown Baghdad with representative terrain, such as overpasses and the clutter of non-combatants."

Keeping information current is a key feature of the game's software.

"Gomer Pyle barracks are long gone," Wardynski said. "People have a lot of legacy information about what the military looks like. So with this we can quickly let them visualize what today's Army looks like, and what tomorrow's Army is going to look like. For example, we can build the Future Combat System into the game today, so that if kids come into the Army today, by the time I'm a sergeant here's what I'll see."

"The folks here can take an actual physical device like a control panel and actually wire the buttons into the game so that when you push the right buttons the right things happen in the game."

A nation at war needs all the help that



Dorothy Moore/Photo Lab

BULL'S-EYE— Dr. Bill McCorkle, director of Research Development and Engineering Center, fires simulated M-16 rounds in the official Army game 'America's Army' at the Software Engineering Directorate.

it can get and "America's Army" has proven helpful.

"This kind of technology allows our Soldiers to better dominate the battlefield and learn much more quickly," Wardynski said. "And battlefield lessons will be brought into the training, almost

overnight. SED has the best team that we could find to manage the program's software. They have built into 'America's Army' capabilities that are now on the battlefield. For the young folks, the game is really a classroom, where they can explore the Army."

Great American Smokeout blazes 28th annual trail

The American Cancer Society has scheduled the 28th annual

Great American Smokeout for Thursday to encourage smokers to quit for a day in the hope they may quit for good.

An information table from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Fox Army Health Center will include information on medication, counseling, behavioral therapies and class dates. Quit for a day contract and tools can help patients quit and increase their chances of staying quit, according to the Public Health Service guideline, "Treating Tobacco Use and Dependence: A Clinical Practice Guideline."

Even though the Smokeout officially began in 1977, the event's roots reach back to 1971, when Arthur Mullaney challenged the citizens of Randolph, Mass., to give up cigarettes for the day and donate the saved money to a high school scholarship fund. Mullaney coined the term Smokeout.

Later, Lynn R. Smith, editor of the *Monticello Times* in Minnesota, spearheaded that state's first D-Day, or Don't Smoke Day. D-Day spread like wildfire throughout Minnesota, and then blazed west to California where it became the Great American Smokeout. (Fox Army Health Center release)



Courtesy photo

Officer of quarter

Officer Terrance Frazier is recognized as the Alutiiq and Wackenhut Security Services Officer of the Quarter. He received a certificate of achievement from the directorate of emergency services and the Garrison commander's coin of excellence.

■ Veterans urge support of Soldiers fighting for peace

Veterans

continued from page 1

as the sole survivor of the Super Six Four during the Battle of Mogadishu in Somalia on Oct. 3, 1993, said American Soldiers need the support of the American people if they are to succeed in their mission for world peace.

In the field, that support is evident to Soldiers in three ways, said Durant, who was a chief warrant officer with the Army's 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment.

First, Soldiers must have a feasible chance at accomplishing the mission they are sent out to do, he said.

"Second, we have to resource them properly," he said. "They have to have the adequate numbers and adequate equipment to get the job done. If we don't resource them properly, then they won't succeed. And, third, we have to know what the accomplishment is meant to be, what the criteria is for success."

Many times the criteria for success is vague and, when it is clear, it often changes as one accomplishment leads to another. Troops were initially sent to Somalia on a humanitarian mission to feed the country's starving people. But once that was accomplished, the objective changed.

"We decided we would build up a free and democratic society in Somalia," Durant said. "We thought if we let them vote they will accept a change in government and become more like us. But you cannot change the essence of a society overnight."

In the ensuing upheaval, the international coalition in Somalia was attacked. Yet, no American Soldiers were lost until the Battle of

Mogadishu when five Black Hawk helicopters were shot down, 18 Soldiers killed and 74 Soldiers wounded.

"It is still thought to be the most intense firefight since Vietnam," said Durant, who suffered a broken leg and back.

"All four of my crew members were alive, but badly injured ... (They and two Special Forces Soldiers who arrived after the crash) entered into a firefight that lasted 30 minutes. Everyone was killed by gunfire and I spent 11 days in the hands of the enemy."

It is because of sacrifices like the ones made by the Soldiers who were with Durant that the American government must continue to support the fight for freedom throughout the world.

"The reality of warfare, the reality of the kind of people who we are fighting today, the reality of the terrorist threat are reasons why we must be dedicated to following through and the war on terror needs to end with one country standing - the U.S.," Durant said.

Only 90 days after the Battle of Mogadishu, American troops pulled out of Somalia because of the fear of losing more Soldiers. To this day, Somalia is a terrorist threat. Iraq and other areas of the Middle East will also continue to be terrorist threats if the U.S. leaves Iraq prematurely.

"To fight terrorism, it takes a big gun, a big stick, and that's what we've got," Durant said.

"But we've also got to have national will. It's awful that 2,000 Soldiers have died in Iraq. But it would be more awful to say you died for us and we're abandoning the cause you died for ... It takes all of us to make this war a success. We all have to be on the bandwagon. We have to understand what we'll accomplish if we just stay the course."

Arts and crafts classes take shape

*Community invited
to new offerings*

By **MARK WOLFSON**
MWR Arts and Crafts Center

In response to customer surveys, the MWR Arts and Crafts Center has added four new classes to its list of class offerings for fiscal 2006.

These new classes have been designed with the beginner in mind, therefore, no prior training or experience are required for attending. The instructors — Inna Ryzhkova (art class), Sarah Crago (stain glass), Chris Lang (17th century woodworking techniques), and Linda Walker (clay pottery) — have many years of training and teaching experience in their chosen fields.

The three common goals of these classes are to impart respective fundamental skills, and serve as precursors for follow-on intermediate and then advanced classes. These goals combine to bring the Redstone community together in a fun and relaxed environment where they can discover and share with others those innate creative gifts we all possess.



Courtesy photo

CLASS IN SESSION— Linda Walker instructs the pottery class at the Arts and Crafts Center.

Anyone who has access to Redstone Arsenal can attend these classes; and if desired, bring along a family member, friend, or neighbor.

For more information on these new classes or other classes being offered at the Arts and Craft Center, visit building 3615 at the corner of Vincent and Gray Roads or call 876-7951. Additionally, the Morale Welfare and Recreation Arts

and Craft Center e-mails monthly class schedules which describe each class to include dates, times and cost. Anyone interested in receiving a monthly schedule can e-mail their request to art@redstone.army.mil.

Editor's note: Mark Wolfson is assistant manager of the Arts and Crafts Center.

Teledyne Brown wins Air Force contract

Teledyne Brown Engineering Inc. has received a \$1 million, one-year task order from the Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center under an indefinite delivery/indefinite quantity contract. If all options are exercised, the contract has a potential for four additional years with an overall value of \$5.8 million.

Teledyne Brown will provide engineering and technical support to test directors and managers at the Air Force Operational Test and Evaluation Center, located at Albuquerque, N.M.

"This is an opportunity for Teledyne Brown to demonstrate its robust test and evaluation capabilities to a new customer," Jim Link, president of Teledyne Brown Engineering, said. "This win increases significantly the breadth of the types of systems TBE is supporting. We're confident the excellent reputation we have established with the Army will carry over to the Air Force and will result in additional contract awards."

The scope of Teledyne Brown's work will include systems engineering and integration; operational test and evaluation; data collection and mission analysis; test and evaluation documentation preparation; and enhanced early involvement with major commands and product centers during program acquisition phases.

The work will be performed for the Mobile Air Traffic Control System, DoD National Air Space System, Theater Medical Information Management System-Joint, Distributed Common Ground System, Joint Surveillance and Target Attack Radar System, Joint Interface Control Officer Support System, and the Expeditionary Combat Support System. *(Teledyne Brown release)*

Command suite lobby named for retiree

Colette 'Sam' Glover
has thankful friends

By ERIKA READUS
For the Rocket

When Colette "Sam" Glover came to work for the Army in spring 1967, she had no idea she would leave with such a legacy.

Glover retired Sept. 30 and was honored with the naming of the Command Suite Lobby on the fifth floor of Sparkman Center building 5300. Although she was unable to attend the unveiling, co-workers and friends paid homage to her 38 years of contributions.

"I came to work in May of '67 in what was then Procurement and Production Directorate as a clerk; it is now called the Acquisition Center," Glover said. "I stayed there until I went to work at the Patriot Project Office. I enjoyed working at Patriot, it was an exciting time. They were going into production. I think of all of my assignments, I liked it there the most, but I have never regretted leaving." When Glover was ready for a change, she



Courtesy photo

HONORING SERVICE— Nancy Becker and Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury unveil a plaque naming the command suite lobby in Colette "Sam" Glover's honor in a ceremony Sept. 30. Glover was a member of Team Redstone for 38 years.

went to work in the command group.

"After leaving Patriot, I went to work for the secretary of the general staff, then the chief of staff, then the commanding general, then the deputy commander, I have worked for every position in the command group along the way," she said. "I love working for the Army, the bosses change, assignments change, I can't think of a better place to do administrative work, because after all, administrative work is administrative work."

Glover said she lives a life without regrets.

"I have no regrets, although some of my decisions were better than others. I didn't go to college but I have enjoyed my work," she said.

"I have lots of memories to take with me. I think everyone knows how much I love the group Alabama. Well, every year there was a June Jam in Fort Payne and my friend Jo Anne Baker or 'JB' and I would go see Alabama and the Golf Tournament. We went Monday through Sunday every year, and when I worked for Lt. Gen. (Jim) Link he would joke with me about it," Glover said.

Memories of other leaders also remain. "General (Larry) Dodgen also stands out to me," Glover said. "His first day in command was Sept. 11, 2001 and I think he really just did a good job."

Glover said working for general officers has been a highlight of her career.

"It's exciting and never boring," she said. "That's not to say that it isn't stressful. I've learned that you have to have a good time with it and really enjoy what you're doing, and, most importantly, remember who you work for. My job is to support the Soldier in the field and I do that through supporting my boss."

The current commander of Aviation and Missile Command, Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, was the last general officer she served before her retirement.

"Ms. Glover embodies all that is good about AMCOM," Pillsbury said. "She is dynamic and cares about the Soldier, the mission and the work force. She is a model employee for AMCOM and Team Redstone."

"What I like about her is that she is tough when she has to be and nice the rest of the time. She is very protective of the command group, and to do her job you have to be. To do her job she had to understand the importance of the job and how it influences the workers and the war fighter; she did that."

Pillsbury went on to say, "I want to meet the person who has met her and didn't admire and respect her. She is a good Christian leader. She is a model for all of us. She cares about others and wants to do what is right, regardless of the situation."

"I remember when I first got here she pulled me into my office and she came in and sat me down and said 'Sir I know I'm just a secretary here but I think you did that wrong.' Whatever the 'that' was is irrelevant, but she was right. From that day on I looked at her differently than I have any other administrative assistant, executive secretary, whatever you want to call the position — she is much more than that."

When Glover announced her retirement, two members of the command group, Linda Readus and Shelley Feltmeyer, approached Pillsbury with an idea. They thought it would be appropriate to name the foyer in her honor, because it was "Sam's house."

"She was the first person whom a visitor got to see when visiting the commanding general, deputy commander, chief of staff, or the sergeant major," Pillsbury said. "This was her territory. She set the tone for the visit while she set up the calendar and worked it with all involved."

"Truth be known, she was well respected and loved by all up here and still is. She is also tremendously missed. So it's logical to name the first thing you see when visiting the command group, the Colette 'Sam' Glover Lobby."

The Sept. 30 ceremony was held in conjunction with the retirement ceremony of command suite alum Nancy Becker.

Becker said in a videotaped message to Glover, "I remember when we would sit out in the white chairs and you made the rules. The number one rule was you couldn't talk business on the white rug. I miss you and am proud to share this day with you."

Glover was overwhelmed with emotion when she was told that the lobby would be named in her honor.

She has big plans for her retirement.

"I am going to enjoy my retirement; I plan to spend time with my family. I'm going to work at my church and take care of my mom and spend time with Rose, my husband," she said.

"It was a good time over the years and they were all good times. You're not going to like every day but you laugh and go on. That's what I will continue to do."

Training workers to improve business processes

Green-belt graduates return to organizations

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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A growing number of workers are getting the skills to defend against wasteful business processes. They've been trained as green belts and they're ready to improve their organizations.

Maybe someday they'll advance to black belts or master black belts.

This isn't karate training. The idea behind Lean Six Sigma is improving business processes, both administrative and industrial, throughout the Aviation and Missile Command.

"We want people to look at continuous improvement as a normal part of the way they do business," Brian Wood, director of the Office of Continuous Improvement, said.

AMCOM's first Lean Six Sigma green belt training was held Oct. 17-21 at Sparkman Center building 5304. There were 27 graduates from throughout the command, including two from the



Courtesy photo

MEASURING VARIATION— Doing a green-belt class exercise called the "statapult" are from left Robert Aldridge, Marina O'Kraski, Clyde Wilder, Gary Hoover and Maxie Pooler.

Logistics Support Activity. They were instructed by master black belt Danita Brooks and black belt Tom Ray, both of the Office of Continuous Improvement, and Antonia Giardina, a master black belt from headquarters Army Materiel Command.

"It will help change the organizational culture throughout AMCOM," Brooks said. The weeklong green-belt training is introductory; and the graduates are to help complete an improve-

ment project in their organization.

Black belt training is more in-depth and analytical and lasts five weeks. Then the graduates have two months to complete their own project. Master black belts go through four additional weeks of training and serve as mentors. "We have to mentor at least two black belts and teach the green belt and black belt courses," Brooks said.

She and Ray, a contractor employee, are the only ones

to attain the black belt level in the 22-member Office of Continuous Improvement.

"They'll be more in the future," Wood said. "We're growing that capability."

The command's ongoing effort aligns with AMC's Lean Six Sigma training program. Training is planned here, at the Aviation Center Logistics Command on Fort Rucker and at Letterkenny Depot, Pa. Corpus Christi Depot, Texas, also has a training program. Besides the two members of LOGSA in the first green belt class, the office has an agreement to train some employees of Research Development and Engineering Center.

"While training is important, it's the execution that's most important," Wood said. "We don't want to train for just training sake. We want to apply what they've learned."

An example of a Lean improvement was publicized in the October issue of the office's "OCI Times" newsletter. Under the Integrated Materiel Management Center's national maintenance program, the source of

See Belts on page 13



Photo by Claus Martel

Time capsule burial

AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury attends the Huntsville Bicentennial Time Capsule closing Nov. 7 at Bicentennial Park downtown. In the capsule, Pillsbury sent a letter to the Redstone commanding general of 2055. Also buried was a DVD produced by Mike Baker of the AMCOM Historical Office. Included on the DVD is a video of the history of Redstone Arsenal (narrated by AMCOM public affairs specialist Bob Hunt), a video on Maj. Gen. Holger Toftoy (who in 1955 sent a letter to the commanding general of 2005 – Pillsbury), and a video that was produced for the bicentennial. From left are Huntsville city councilman Bill Kling, bicentennial co-chairman Dana Lee Tatum, Pillsbury, Madison County commission chairman Jim Gillespie, Huntsville mayor Loretta Spencer and bicentennial co-chairman Bob Ludwig.

Logistics team looks toward future combat systems

Representatives gather on post

By SKIP VAUGHN

Rocket editor

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This marked a first for the offices throughout the United States supporting the Future Combat Systems program.

They sent representatives to a meeting here Nov. 9-10 which focused on logistics analysis for the FCS brigade combat team. About 50 people attended the sessions at building 5681.

"This is the first time where we brought in stakeholders and the entire team to focus on logistics analysis," David Horton, deputy director for logistics for FCS brigade combat team, said. His office is in Warren, Mich.

Sam Collier, associate director for logistics analysis and engineering for FCS, conducted the meeting along with Kevin Billmann, his Boeing counterpart from Philadelphia, Pa.

Future Combat Systems represents a family of manned and unmanned ground vehicles and unmanned aerial vehicles. It is the core of the Army's efforts to ensure that the Army, as a member of the joint team, will move, shoot and communicate better than ever before and better than any opponent it will face in the 21st century, according to a prepared release.

"Our first fielding is (year) 2014," Horton said. "However, we're also spinning out technologies to the current force starting in 2008

with the evaluation brigade, and eventually to module brigade combat teams."

Brig. Gen. Charles Cartwright, the program manager of Future Combat Systems, is collocated with Boeing in St. Louis. Phil Hodges, deputy for supportability, is located at Redstone.

"We're having an all-hands meeting which brings in all the stakeholders and participants in logistics analysis to make sure we're on the same sheet of music, to provide a status on the program and to plan," Horton said. "This is the very first one and our intention is to try to have these maybe twice a year."

Workers certified to improve how they do business

Belts

continued from page 12

repair certification process was reduced from 463 days to 180 days.

Lean, which began at headquarters AMC in 2001 and arrived here in August 2002, means improving processes by removing wasteful practices and barriers. Lean Six Sigma further refines those processes by controlling variation and improving quality.

"We have top management commitment," Wood said.

The 27 green belt graduates included Paul Adams and Robert Branin of Test Measurement and Diagnostic Equipment Activity; Ronnie McDaniel and Penny Thomas of G-1; Debra Rodriguez, Rochelle Feltmeyer, Shania Burrows, Linda Hall, Tom Mailey and Debra Foley of Command Group; Robert Aldridge and Lisa Marie Snyder of Acquisition Center; Marina O'Kraski, Felicia Odom, Donna McAlister and Clyde Wilder of Integrated Materiel Management Center; Brenda Winfrey and Maxie Pooler of Office of Continuous Improvement;



Photo by Julie Frederick

GRADUATION SPEAKER— Dr. Richard Amos, deputy to the commanding general, addresses the 27 green belts on Oct. 21.

Stephanie Cole and Eileen Endricks of Logistics Support Activity; Jetty Baddley, Joshua Call and Susan Bassham of CIO G-6; Gary Hoover of Security Assistance Management Directorate; Homer Reynolds and John Moore of Resource Management Directorate; and Dewayne Goss of G-4.



Courtesy photo

Corporate manager

Retired Col. Richard De Fatta has been appointed vice president of Teledyne Solutions Inc. He will assist TSI president Steve Kuffner in managing the company's support to Space and Missile Defense Command, the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space, the Ground-based Midcourse Defense Program Office, the Missile Defense Agency, and the Aviation and Missile Command.

Helping greyhounds one dog at a time

Residents find homes for racetrack retirees

By **KARI HAWKINS**
Staff writer
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At 8 years old, Fish is the oldest of four. He was adopted by Lynn and Philip Moore and their daughter, Haley, six years ago after he broke his ankle in a race.

Seven-year-olds Gal and Princess came to the Moore family in very different ways. Gal, whose skittish nature hinted that she might have been abused, was adopted to give Fish company. Princess came to the family a little later and was only supposed to stay until a “forever home” was found for her. But her sweet personality stole the hearts of her caregivers and she became the Moores’ third adoption.

Marilla, their latest adoption, was also being fostered by the Moore family. But the 2-year-old’s rare beauty and gentle nature convinced the Moore family to add her to their brood.

The four loving additions to the Moore family are not children. Rather, they are greyhounds who were raised at a racetrack to fill the need for racing dogs. Until fairly recently, thousands of young, healthy greyhounds were killed every year after their retirement from a racetrack. But thanks to the efforts of dog lovers like the Moores and rescue agencies like the Greyhound Retired Racers of Athens, many greyhounds are leaving the racetrack to live long lives in loving homes.

“These dogs are extremely lovable and appreciate the chance at life that you give them,” said Lynn Moore, a maintenance management specialist at the Integrated Materiel Management Center, who volunteers with GRR.

“We love the dogs. We love the breed and we hate what’s happening to them. Young, happy dogs are being killed just because there is nowhere for them once the racetrack doesn’t want them anymore.”

Philip Moore, a NASA contractor who works for SAIC, first introduced his wife to the possibility of adopting a greyhound after learning about the fate of retired greyhounds. It didn’t take



Photo by Kari Hawkins

FAMILY PORTRAIT— Lynn Moore, a maintenance management specialist at the Army’s Integrated Materiel Management Command, and her husband, Philip, and their daughter, 13-year-old Haley, pose with their greyhounds, from left, Princess, Fish, Marilla and Gal. They adopted their first greyhound, Fish, about six years ago. They now volunteer to find homes for other greyhound adoptees through the Greater Retired Racers of Athens. The Moore family will volunteer at the next greyhound “meet-and-greet” Saturday at PetSmart.

much to convince his wife that a greyhound was for them. All he had to do was take her to a local greyhound adoption event.

“They handed us a dog and said ‘Here, take him for a walk,’” Moore recalled.

“Percy turned out to be a little too exuberant for first-time dog owners like us. But we flipped over Fish. He is very laid back. You can’t help but love him. He worms his way into your heart.”

The family of three plus four greyhounds spends the third Saturday of each month helping GRR with its greyhound “meet-and-greet” event at PetSmart in Jones Valley. At these events, interested owners can meet dogs available for adoption.

“Most people have never seen a greyhound in the flesh and everyone seems to enjoy meeting them,” Moore said. “The hounds certainly enjoy meeting the people and each other. We are there to answer questions about the breed and assist people with fill-

ing out adoption applications.”

At any given time, GRR’s director Kim Key has 20 to 25 greyhounds looking for homes. His organization finds homes for about 100 dogs each year.

“Many come from the Birmingham racetrack,” he said. “The majority of them are in good health. Occasionally, we’ll get some with injuries. Most have been raced, although some don’t make it to their maiden race because they are not interested in racing. I find homes for these dogs because I can’t deal with an animal that’s perfectly healthy being put down just because it isn’t fast enough.”

Greyhounds begin racing at 18 months old. Mandatory retirement is at 6-years-old, although some retire as early as age 2.

“You will rarely see a greyhound puppy for adoption,” Moore said. “The owners of the racing dogs don’t want anyone to breed competition, so puppies are rarely available.”

Before groups like the GRR were organized around the country, greyhounds were most often killed when they were retired. Some were killed humanely with an injection. Others were shot, poisoned or even hanged.

“I’ve seen web sites online that show pictures of greyhounds in Spain who were hung with barbed wire,” Moore said. “According to those sites, the custom at some tracks is to hang the good dogs (the better racers) higher so that they die quicker. The dogs who weren’t good (at winning races) are hung with their back feet barely touching the ground so that it takes them longer to die.”

Other web sites show greyhounds who were killed and stacked in trash cans. Recently, dogs who were suppose to be disposed of humanely in Southern Alabama were instead shot and thrown in a pit, some still alive when they were buried.

Although Key is committed

to finding a home for each greyhound in his care, he does not let a potential dog owner go home with a greyhound from his adoption event. Rather, he and volunteers work together to fit the personality of a dog with the personality, lifestyle and makeup of a new owner. They consider things like if there are small children, cats or other dogs in the home. With this information, GRR will select several dogs for the potential owner to meet and consider.

The elegant, slender greyhound has been bred over the centuries to be a non-aggressive dog. They are quiet, gentle and sociable, and vary in size from 30 to almost 90 pounds. With the ability to run at 45 mph, greyhounds are the second fastest animal in the world (cheetahs are first), yet they require little exercise or activity. Most are laid-back and love to lounge around to the point that they are often referred to as the “45 mph couch potato.” Although large, they don’t require a big yard.

“Greyhounds have to be inside because they don’t have the body fat to regulate their temperature,” Moore said. “They can’t warm up and they can’t cool down very well.”

These dogs also have no “doggy” odor because they don’t have the oils in their coats that cause smells in other breeds. They rarely need bathing and are good pets for people who suffer from allergies.

“I’ve always said that greyhounds are a great breed for lazy pet owners,” Moore said. “They are clean, healthy, don’t smell, don’t need regular bathing or grooming, are quiet, intelligent, not aggressive and don’t require lots of exercise. What more can you ask?”

The adoption fee for a greyhound from GRR is \$180, which pays for a healthy spayed or neutered dog with clean teeth, trimmed nails and up-to-date shots. The new owner also receives six months of heartworm pills, a collar and a leash. The dogs are already crate trained.

For more information, visit the GRR “meet-and-greet” Saturday at PetSmart in Jones Valley from 1 to 4 p.m. or call 1-877-GRR-GET1 (232-0721) or visit GRR’s web site at www.grr-adopt.org.

RDEC security division sets standard for success

Army inspectors applaud efforts

By CHARLENE COKE
For the Rocket

What is the definition of success? Webster's dictionary defines it as "the achievement of something desired or attempted." When does achievement transcend the boundaries of the definition of success and become something more? The Research

Development and Engineering Center is an example.

During a Department of the Army Inspector General inspection Oct. 17-21, the RDEC, led by the efforts of its Security and Intelligence Division, achieved a rating of "success" or "in compliance" with the rigid and demanding standards set by the DA IG.

What makes this noteworthy is no one – not a single Army agency – has been "successful" or "in compliance" with the DA

IG collateral inspection until RDEC. This includes agencies that have existed for years and gone through many inspections.

The RDEC Security and Intelligence Division did not even exist before March. RDEC had previously received all its Security and Intelligence support from outside agencies. The leadership at RDEC decided the time had come for an internal S&I Division to be established.

The Security and Intelligence Division hit the ground running and through diligence and determination achieved what no one else could. It conducted many

Security Monitors briefings and hands-on training classes. It followed up with multiple courtesy inspections of all RDEC internal organizations. It even arranged for headquarters Research Development and Engineering Command to visit and provide a final readiness inspection before the scheduled DA IG inspectors' arrival.

The DA IG inspectors made numerous laudatory comments about the Security and Intelligence Division's personnel, professionalism, preparedness and spirit of cooperativeness during the inspection. The lead inspec-

tor also stated the mandatory documentation provided by the division was "the best read ahead package we had received in five years." During the out briefing, the inspectors emphasized that they had never previously written a statement like that in any report.

Maj. Gen. Roger Nadeau, commander of RDECOM, applauded center director Dr. Bill McCorkle for his "leadership-by-example and his personal involvement in the oversight of these programs (which) have set a highly desirable benchmark for the entire command."



Photo by Bradley Stephenson

HIGHLY RATED— Members of the RDEC Security and Intelligence Division include from left Theresa Doss, Sandy Woodard, Clark Lewis; Dr. Suzy Young, RDEC acting deputy director; division manager Sharon Bocclair, Cassandra LeFlore and Charlene Coke.

Allied officers address high school students

DECATUR — Three Redstone Arsenal international students visited Decatur High on Nov. 3 to share information about their country and culture.

The officers also explained to the Junior ROTC students the role and responsibilities of an officer in their country. The international students included Capt. Omar Al-Trad from Jordan, Capt. Ahmed El-Houty from Egypt and Capt. Shadi Khashashneh from Jordan.

The high school students said they appreciated the opportunity to meet and learn from the allied officers. The international officers also got a lot out of the experience and said they enjoyed meeting the future U.S. officers.



Courtesy photo

CULTURAL EXCHANGE— Capt. Shadi Khashashneh from Jordan answers Junior ROTC students' questions about his country.

MEDDAC looks healthy entering playoffs

Medics have banner season in unit-level flag football

By SKIP VAUGHN
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MEDDAC hopes for a different finish this year in flag football.

The medics have had a stellar season and are among the favorites entering the postseason tournament.

“This is my fourth year now and this is the best team we’ve had so far,” MEDDAC coach/linebacker Johnny Davis said. “We’ve got a lot of guys playing with a lot of heart, putting everything they’ve got into this. We want this championship.”

“We’re always like the third best team in the league for some reason. You don’t feel too good knowing you can’t beat a couple of teams. It’s not a good feeling.”

But that hasn’t been the case this year. MEDDAC was 7-1 entering this week’s action.

MEDDAC’s roster consists entirely of Medical Department Activity members, unlike some teams that have to use players from other units. This is a boost for camaraderie, according to Davis.

“We’re really working together as a team and we’re starting to get more intense (for the upcoming tournament),” he said. “So we’re looking forward to definitely doing our best and we’re going for the championship this year. We feel we’re capable of winning it.”

He knows it won’t be easy in a league with tough teams like NCO Academy, Headquarters & Alpha, pre-season champion Charlie Company and HHC 59th. Bravo beat MEDDAC 28-23 on Oct. 31.

“We don’t underestimate any of those teams. Any team can beat you at anytime. A lot of good competition out there, close games,” Davis said.

MEDDAC’s assistant coach is safety Marshall Brown. The offense is led by quarterback Eric James, in his second year.

“I think this year as long as we don’t get deployed we have a great chance of winning (the championship),” James said, “since we’re a better team this year.”

Others in the lineup include Scott Pearson, Tommie Brooks, Gregory Burno, Tyraze Clayton, Jorge Delgado, Kern Duncan, Kenster Shannon, Rick Clark, Freddie McElveen, Eric Moorman, Michael Vestal, Michael Wolonsky and

Desmond Jackson. The cheerleaders are Jessica Martin and Sara Johnson.

MEDDAC beat HHC 59th 20-14 on Nov. 8 at the field off Patton Road.

“Our defense has got to pull together a little better,” HHC 59th center/middle linebacker Michael McGilton said. “And we’ve got to take care of all the necessary things like taking care of the quarterback on passes. But we’ve got as good a chance as anybody going into the playoffs.”

Standings entering this week were: MEDDAC (7-1), NCO Academy (7-1), Headquarters & Alpha (7-1), Charlie (5-4), HHC 59th (4-4), Bravo (2-7), Marines (1-8) and 326th Chemical (1-8). After games Nov. 17 and Nov. 21, the postseason tournament will be scheduled.

Here are last week’s results:

• **Nov. 7** – Headquarters & Alpha def. Bravo 18-6, Charlie def. HHC 59th 32-22 and MEDDAC def. Marines 26-8.

• **Nov. 8** – MEDDAC def. HHC 59th 20-14, NCO Academy def. Bravo 28-8 and Headquarters & Alpha def. 326th Chemical 13-12.

• **Nov. 10** — NCO Academy def. 326th Chemical 30-16 and Headquarters & Alpha def. Bravo by forfeit.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

MASH UNIT— MEDDAC players from left include offensive/defensive linemen Rick Clark, Freddie McElveen, Gregory Burno and wide receiver/cornerback Kenster Shannon.

Alabama defense should stop Auburn

Crimson Tide to top Tigers

By SKIP VAUGHN
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Skip's Picks were 465-174 for 73 percent 11 weeks into the college football season. Here are my predictions this week:



PREDICTING THIS GAME CAN BE RISKY

Alabama at Auburn — **Bama**

Ala. A&M at Prairie View A&M — **Ala. A&M**

LSU at Mississippi — **LSU**

Kentucky at Georgia — **Georgia**

Vanderbilt at Tennessee — **Vanderbilt**

Mississippi State at Arkansas — **Ark.**

Clemson at South Carolina — **So. Carolina**

Arkansas State at Army — **Army**

Temple at Navy — **Navy**

Air Force at New Mexico — **Air Force**

Fresno State at Southern California — **USC**

Boston College at Maryland — **Maryland**

Cincinnati at South Florida — **So. Fla.**

Minnesota at Iowa — **Minnesota**

Northwestern at Illinois — **Northwestern**

Virginia Tech at Virginia — **Va. Tech**

The Citadel at VMI — **The Citadel**

Duke at North Carolina — **North Carolina**

Middle Tenn. at N.C. State — **N.C. State**

Ohio State at Michigan — **Michigan**

Purdue at Indiana — **Purdue**

Eastern Illinois at Jacksonville State — **Jax**

Missouri at Kansas State — **Missouri**

Oklahoma at Texas Tech — **Oklahoma**

Oklahoma State at Baylor — **Baylor**

Tulsa at Tulane — **Tulsa**

Syracuse at Notre Dame — **Notre Dame**

Alcorn State at Jackson State — **Alcorn**

Central Florida at Rice — **Central Fla.**

Utah at Brigham Young — **BYU**

Washington State at Washington — **Wash. State**

Eastern Kentucky at Tennessee State — **E. Ky.**

Furman at Chattanooga — **Furman**

Bethune-Cookman at Florida A&M — **FAMU**

Colorado State at UNLV — **Colo. State**

Penn State at Michigan State — **Penn State**

East Carolina at Marshall — **Marshall**

New Mexico State at San Jose State — **San Jose**

Southern Methodist at Houston — **Houston**

Oregon State at Oregon — **Oregon**

California at Stanford — **California**

Georgia Tech at Miami (Fla.) — **Miami**

Wyoming at San Diego State — **Wyoming**

Memphis at Southern Mississippi — **So. Miss.**

UAB at Texas-El Paso — **Texas-El Paso**

Arkansas-Pine Bluff at Texas Southern — **Pine Bluff**

Tae Kwon Do keeps students on their toes

Martial arts classes held at Youth Center

By KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
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Standing next to her family, Janette Compres looks just a little different. While her husband, Sgt. 1st Class Henry Compres, and children Armando and Yesenia wear blue belts around their waists, Janette wears green.

In the world of Tae Kwon Do, that means Janette is not yet at the same level of instruction as the rest of her family. While her green belt refers to a student who is like a plant growing its leaves, the blue belts worn by the rest of her family mean they are students reaching higher like a plant growing toward the sky.

Janette plans to take the blue belt test in just a few weeks and standing at her side will be her husband and children, all who plan to retake the test with her.

"We started Tae Kwon Do to do something as a family," said Henry Compres, who serves with the 832nd Ordnance Battal-

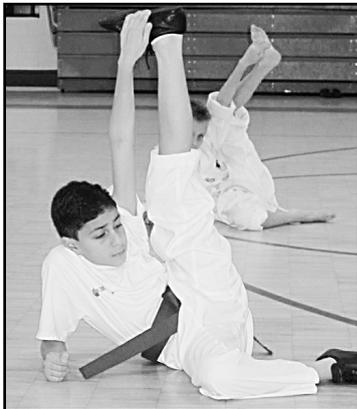


Photo by Kari Hawkins

STRETCHING TIME— Armando Compres, 10, stretches during Tae Kwon Do class at the Youth Center. His favorite part of classes and competitions are the sparring activities. He recently earned his blue belt.

ion. "Janette was sick when we tested. It's a pretty strenuous test so you can't be sick when you take it. We went ahead and took it without her, but we will take the test again with her because the goal is to advance everybody together. We all hope to have our black belts in two years."

The Compres family started Tae Kwon Do classes about 16 months ago with master Jeffrey Davis, a retired Army fourth-degree black belt who teaches through the Morale Welfare and Recreation's SKIESUnlimited (Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills) program. Classes are offered on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5-6 p.m. and 6-7 p.m., and Saturdays from 8:30-9:30 a.m.

The Compres family said they enjoy Davis' classes for two reasons – they are offered in a family atmosphere and Davis teaches techniques in the proper Korean manner.

On a recent Tuesday evening, Davis was putting his beginning students through a series of exercises designed to teach them balance, coordination and the techniques of this modern martial art that comes from Korea. Tae Kwon Do is characterized by its fast, high and spinning kicks. The name Tae Kwon Do is often translated as "the way of hand and foot" or "the art of kicking and punching" or "the art of unarmed combat."

"We work a lot on balance because it is very important in all we are doing," said Davis, 45, who has been teaching Tae Kwon Do since 2001. He also works full time as a logistics analyst for Logistics Support Activity.

Tae Kwon Do is a combination of four disciplines – patterns (a series of attacking movements performed against an imaginary opponent), sparring (both non-contact and head and foot contact), self defense and break test (the breaking of an object with a part of the body). The objectives



Photo by Kari Hawkins

SPINNING KICK— Binh Dinh, an engineer with the Aviation Engineering Directorate, tries his foot at a spinning kick during a Tae Kwon Do class as master Jeffrey Davis holds the target and student Shawn Forbs awaits his turn. Many families participate in the Tae Kwon Do classes offered at the Youth Center on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Attending class with Dinh were his wife, Le, and his 14-year-old son, Thomas.

of the classes are to develop an appreciation for Tae Kwon Do as a sport and as an art, to achieve physical fitness through positive participation, to improve mental discipline and emotional composure, to learn self-defense skills, and to develop a sense of responsibility for oneself and others.

Davis' classes – the earlier one for beginners and the later one for more advanced students – are intense in their level of exercise and instruction. Students must be able to move quickly, turn on the balls of their feet, keep their hands in controlled positions and kick with their toes pointed.

"I like the discipline of it, and the blocks and kicks and techniques," said 11-year-old Briana Wurtz, daughter of Chief Warrant Officer John and Marilyn Wurtz.

Briana's four months of instruction have advanced her from the beginner's white belt signifying innocence or no knowledge to the more advanced yellow belt, which means she is a

student getting to know the basic techniques like a plant growing its roots. Her friend, 11-year-old Meghann Kennedy proudly wears a red belt. The red belt, earned through four and a half years of training, symbolizes to Meghann that she must practice control in her movements. It is also a warning of her danger to potential foes.

Meghann, daughter of Sgt. 1st Class Johnny and Jennifer Kennedy, helps instruct Davis' students in the beginner's class. She enjoys the physical demands of the sport.

"When I get really frustrated, I can come here and get out all my anger," she said. "It's a good way of anger management, and learning control and patience. I love the conditioning and balancing and point sparring."

Starla Bond, who works at Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space, enjoys the classes with her son, 11-year-old Michael.

"This is an activity that both me and my son can do together,"

she said.

They both like the physical workout they get from Tae Kwon Do.

"I like the fact that the aggression works your body," Michael said. "I get more workout from this than I get in P.E. at school."

While the physical activity is definitely a plus, Charlie Company Staff Sgt. Barry Brown has seen a marked improvement in other areas for his son, 10-year-old Shawn Forbs, since he started Tae Kwon Do only four weeks ago.

"He's never done contact sports," Brown said of his son. "This has given him a lot of confidence. And he's doing better in school because he knows if he doesn't he won't be able to come here."

Many of Davis' students compete at American Tae Kwon Do Federation tournaments throughout the Southeast.

"Members of the federation have been impressed with our discipline, respect and talent," Davis said. "Even though we compete, most of my students are here for the conditioning. This is something they can do as a family that gives them physical exercise."

Davis teaches his students the Korean terms they need to know for competitions. He teaches them the basics as well as the advanced techniques of Tae Kwon Do. But he doesn't want his students to feel pressured to conquer the challenging martial art.

"This is about everything from the head to the bottom," he said. "It's about learning this martial art. I just hope when people come into this class they enjoy the art without being pressured or overwhelmed by it. It's supposed to be about having fun. Anybody can enjoy Tae Kwon Do."

For more information about Tae Kwon Do and to sign up for classes, call 876-3704 or 313-3701.

BRAC deadline expires; DoD to begin realignments

By DONNA MILES
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The Base Realignment and Closure Commission's recommendations for reshaping the Defense Department's infrastructure and force structure officially took effect after Congress allowed them to pass into law at the mandated Nov. 8 deadline.

The nine-member BRAC panel delivered its final report to President Bush Sept. 8, and he,

in turn, sent it to Congress for legislative review Sept. 15. Congress had 45 legislative days, until Nov. 9, to accept or reject the report in its entirety. However, it was not authorized to make any changes to the final report.

By statute, the Defense Department now has until Sept. 15, 2007 — two years from the date President Bush sent Congress the BRAC commission's final report — to begin closing and realigning the installations as called for in the report. The process must be completed by Sept. 15, 2011, DoD officials said.

The 2005 BRAC recommendations represent the most aggressive BRAC ever proposed, affecting more than 800 installations.

Previous rounds

The four previous BRAC rounds — in 1988, 1991, 1993 and 1995 — resulted in 97 major closures, 55 major realignments and 235 minor actions, according to DoD figures. Overall, closing and realigning these installations saved taxpayers around \$18 billion though fiscal 2001 and a further \$7 billion per year since.

BRAC 2005 is being called an important milestone in restructuring DoD's domestic base structure to improve efficiency and operational capabilities. It also supports plans to move thousands of U.S. forces currently serving overseas to within the United States as part of DoD's new global positioning strategy, officials said.

After months of study, installation visits and public hearings around the country, the nine-member BRAC panel approved 86 percent of DoD's original

BRAC recommendations — 119 with no change and another 45 with amendments, the panel noted. The panel also rejected 13 recommendations, significantly modified another 13, and made five additional closure or realignment recommendations on its own initiative.

Of DoD's 33 major closure recommendations, the panel approved 21, recommended seven bases be realigned rather than closed, and rejected five recommendations outright. In addition, the commission recommended closing rather than realigning another installation, for a total of 22 major closures.

Many of the transformational recommendations in the report, particularly those to establish joint operations, will present significant challenges as they are implemented.

Communities affected

Detailed business plans will be developed for every BRAC recommendation, laying out what actions are required to implement them, when they will occur, and what resources are needed to put them into effect. Affected services and agencies were to submit these plans by Nov. 15 to the DoD Installation Capabilities Council, which will review them and forward them to the Infrastructure Steering Group for approval.

Meanwhile, DoD is poised to begin working with civilian employees and communities to be affected by the BRAC decisions. DoD has a long and successful history of helping its civilian workers impacted by base closings, officials noted. This includes programs that promote placement, training,

retraining and transition to new positions.

Since 1989, DoD has reduced its civilian work force by 428,400 people, with less than 10 percent of those reductions through involuntary separations. DoD's Priority Placement Program, which officials call the centerpiece of DoD's Civilian Assistance and Re-employment programs, gives defense employees placement priority at other DoD facilities.

DoD's Office of Economic Adjustment will take the lead for the federal government in helping communities affected by base closures and realignments, working cooperatively with the President's Economic Adjustment Committee.

A community conference, to be held in Baltimore Nov. 28 through Dec. 1, will focus on many of the issues involved in BRAC 2005 and the programs available to address them.



Shawn Harris/Photo Lab

Banner presentation

Brig. Gen. Mike Cannon, program executive officer for missiles and space, presents new Army and general officer flags to Bob Howell, manager of the Officers and Civilians Club. "We want to make sure that we look good during all the festivities that we have here at the club," Cannon said. The five flags will remain at the club, so visiting organizations will no longer have to bring flags with them during visits.



Photo by Spc. Eliamar Trapp

New captain

Maj. Gen. Vincent Boles, chief of ordnance, pins captain bars on the collar of 1st Lt. Michael Barker, executive officer for B Company, 832nd Ordnance Battalion, 59th Ordnance Brigade, on Nov. 1 at the Directorate of Instruction's auditorium.



Photo by Spc. Eliamar Trapp

Promotion warranted

Waleska Santiaigorodriguez, pins chief warrant officer-4 rank onto her husband's collar, Chief Warrant Officer Miguel Santiaigorodriguez, during his promotion ceremony Nov. 1 at the Directorate of Instruction's auditorium. He is the Warrant Officer Advanced Course and Warrant Officer Basic Course manager with the 59th Ordnance Brigade's Ordnance Munitions and Electronic Maintenance School.

PAC-3 missile misses target

WHITE SANDS MISSILE RANGE, N.M. — The Army conducted a flight test of the Patriot Advanced Capability-3 missile system at White Sands Missile Range on Friday. The test involved an engagement using two PAC-3 missiles against a short-range, full-body aerodynamic TBM target. Preliminary test data indicate that an intercept was not achieved.

Test objectives of this mission included demonstrating the performance of PAC-3 missile software changes and associated ground system software improvements. The test intended to demonstrate the system's capability to detect,

track, engage and intercept a short-range aerodynamic TBM target. The target for the mission was a Patriot-as-a-Target, a Patriot legacy missile modified to represent a short-range aerodynamic TBM target.

Soldiers of the 2-43rd Air Defense Artillery, Fort Bliss, Texas, participated in the test.

The PAC-3 system successfully completed operational testing and began fielding in 2002. It was first used in combat during Operation Iraqi Freedom in 2003.

PAC-3 has had 17 successful intercept tests and three unsuccessful intercepts, including Friday's test.

PAC-3 is a high velocity, hit-

to-kill missile and is the newest addition to Patriot family of missiles. It provides increased capability against advanced tactical ballistic missiles, cruise missiles and other air-breathing threats.

The Patriot PAC-3 program is managed by the Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space and executed by the Lower Tier Air and Missile Defense Project Office. Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control, Dallas, Texas, is the prime contractor responsible for the PAC-3 missile segment. Raytheon Systems Company, the Patriot system prime contractor, is the system integrator for the PAC-3 missile segment.



Sports & Recreation

Monday night football

The entire Redstone community is invited to the Firehouse Pub each Monday night for NFL Monday night football. Doors open at 4 p.m. for game prep and pre-game rivalry. Free hot dogs, hamburgers and other foods with beverage purchase. Watch the game on the big screen television. For more information, call 842-0748 or 830-2582.

Auburn-Alabama rivalry

Come watch one of college football's longest standing rivalries, Alabama vs. Auburn, on the big-screen television at the Firehouse Pub. The game is Saturday, and doors will open two hours before the start. There will be free chili, hamburgers, hot dogs and door prizes with the purchase of a drink. For more information, call 830-2582.



Conferences & Meetings

Security awareness week

The G2s for Aviation and Missile Command, Space and Missile Defense Command, in addition to NASA Security, are sponsoring Security Awareness Week from Nov. 14-18. The training offered will satisfy the mandatory annual Department of Army security awareness training requirement for participating organizations. The projected participants in the

Security Awareness Week include AMCOM, SMDC, Program Executive Office for Missiles and Space, PEO Aviation, the Research Development and Engineering Center and NASA. Each of these organizations will have specific times throughout the week to attend training sessions in Bob Jones Auditorium. The purpose of the Security Awareness Week is to promote security awareness in the Redstone community through a series of events that will inform and educate in a manner that will interest, entertain and have a solid impact on the community. For information on the schedule, call Doug Lee 313-5783.

Toastmasters

Tennessee Valley Toastmasters meets the first and third Saturday of each month at 9 a.m. at the Radisson Inn, 8721 Highway 20 West, Madison. For information call 876-8706 or e-mail amy.donlin@us.army.mil.

Enlisted spouses

Enlisted Spouses Club meets on the second Thursday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Challenger Activity Center. New members are always welcome. Child care reimbursement is available to members. For more information, call Jean Mulcahy 881-7024.

Sergeants major

The Sergeants Major Association will hold its monthly meeting Thursday morning from 6:30-7:30 at the Officers and Civilians Club, Twickenham Room. For more information, call Sgt. Maj. Gregory Knight 836-8036.

Federally employed women

North Alabama Chapter, Federally Employed Women will meet at 11 a.m. Thursday at the Officers and Civilians Club. Jeanine Horvath, a financial adviser with Edward Jones Financial Services, is to speak about preparing for retirement years. The Officers and Civilians Club buffet line can be used for those wishing to eat lunch. All are invited. For more information call president Donna Rigsby 313-3021, program chairman Juanita Sales Lee 955-4521 or secretary Stacy Houk 313-9465.

Parents committee

The Child and Youth Services Parent Advisory Committee will meet Nov. 29 at 11 a.m. in the Redstone Room, Challenger Activity Center, building 1500; phone 876-7952. All parents are encouraged to attend the PAC meetings. Parent Participation Points are awarded for attendance – 5 points equals a 10 percent discount on child care fees. "Please join us to learn what is happening at the Redstone Child and Youth Services facilities and to provide your ideas, opinions or concerns," a prepared release said.

Officers association

The Huntsville Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will hold its informal monthly breakfast Nov. 26 at 8 a.m. at Victoria's Cafe, 7540 Memorial Parkway southwest. The chapter will hold its monthly luncheon meeting Nov. 30 at 11 a.m. in the Officers and Civilians Club. Brooks Kracke of the Jet Plex

Industrial Park is scheduled speaker. All active, retired and former officers, their spouses and widows are invited. For more information, call retired Maj. Steve Crawley 883-2323.

Genealogical society

Huntsville Genealogical Computing Society will meet Nov. 21 at 7 p.m. at Huntsville-Madison County Public Library, 915 Monroe St. Wade Dorland is to speak on "Websites, Information Resources and Highlights from the National Genealogy Society Conference." This meeting is free to the public. For information call 883-5650.



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 management, programming, networking and telecommunications. Minimum of a secret clearance is required. And you must possess

See Announcements on page 25

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 Sgt. 1st Class Harold Cook 876-8710.

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.gsauctions.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. The shop is accepting winter clothing/items. Donations are accepted and tax slips are available. The shop will be closed the week of Thanksgiving. For more information and holiday hours, call 881-6992.

Bible study

Protestant Women of the Chapel members invite all the women of the community to join them at their weekly Bible study Thursday at Bicentennial Chapel. Four studies take place from 9:30 until 11:30 a.m. A lunch study begins at 11:30 until 12:15. Child care is provided at the chapel. For more information, call Toni Welch 489-5646 or Erica Hobbs 489-3018.

Computer classes

Self-paced computer classes are offered at Army Community Service to assist military spouses in learning or enhancing their computer skills. Classes are available in Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, Access, Publisher and Windows

XP. All classes are free and are offered Monday through Friday anytime between 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Certificates will be given after successful completion. Call 876-5397 to pre-register.

Chapel services

Weekly services at Bicentennial Chapel, on Goss Road, include: Weekdays (except Friday) – noon Catholic Mass. Saturday – 5 p.m. Catholic Mass. Sunday — 9:30 a.m. Catholic Mass, 10:45 a.m. CCD, 9:30 a.m. Protestant Sunday School, 11 a.m. Protestant Worship Service. Many Bible studies are throughout the week. For information call 876-2409.

Merit awards

The rising cost of higher education is a growing concern; and the Officer and Civilian Women's Club can aid their members in this endeavor through the OCWC Merit Awards Program. Applicants for merit awards must be a member, spouse of a member, or the dependent of an OCWC member in good standing as of Oct. 18, 2005. Merit awards are based on the applicant's scholastic achievements, citizenship and sincere desire to pursue higher education. Application categories are as follows: high school seniors, undergraduates, graduates and member/spouse. Applicants must live within a 50-mile radius of Huntsville. The applicant must be a U.S. citizen and have no prior felony arrests or convictions. The application deadline for merit award consideration is Feb. 3, 2006. Previous winners may compete in succeeding years, but may only win once in each category. In addition, students receiving full scholarships (defined as a scholarship that covers tuition, books and related expenses) are not eligible to apply for a merit award. Applications will be available at OCWC monthly luncheons. For more information, call merit award chairperson Sharon Samuelson 880-1594.

Women's club membership

Membership in the Officer and Civilian Women's Club is offered to spouses, adult family members and former spouses who hold a valid ID card of active duty officers, retired, deceased officers and federal government employees grade GS-9 and above (includes Reserve and National Guard Components); and active duty and retired officers and federal government employees grade GS-9 and above and non-appropriated fund equivalent. For OCWC membership information, call Chris Swart 955-6703.

Quarterly retirement event

The Quarterly Retirement Ceremony is Dec. 15 at 4 p.m. at Heiser Hall. All military personnel who are scheduled to retire within the next 3-6 months are encouraged to participate. If you would like to participate, call Sgt. 1st Class Kimball

876-2819. Deadline for signing up to participate is Nov. 21.

Aviation scholarships

Tennessee Valley Chapter of the Army Aviation Association of America is sponsoring two Aviation Challenge 2006 Scholarships in conjunction with the U.S. Space & Rocket Center. Children and grandchildren (between the ages of 9/attending or completed fourth grade and 18, not started college) of individuals who are Tennessee Valley AAAA Chapter members by Dec. 31, 2005 will be eligible to compete for the scholarships. The scholarships will be awarded in the form of certificates for use during 2006. Applications for scholarships and membership and more information on Tennessee Valley AAAA Aviation Challenge Scholarship application procedures will be available at the Tennessee Valley AAAA chapter Christmas social as well as on the TVC web site at www.tennvalleyquad-a.org/scholarships.html. Applications are due Jan. 31 in accordance with the instructions on the application. For more information call Tom Harrison, chapter vice president for scholarships, 882-6709.

Furniture for rent

Do you have a large gathering for the holidays? Don't have enough tables and chairs? Don't worry because Morale Welfare and Recreation rents 8-foot aluminum folding tables and lightweight Samsonite folding chairs. Tables are \$5 each and chairs \$2 apiece for a 24-hour period. MWR offers a "special deal": one set (a table and eight chairs) for \$10 for 24 hours. This offer is available to active and retired military, government civilians, NASA employees, Redstone contractors and their family members. For reservations call 955-7727 or 955-7728.

Nashville bus trip

The Civilian Welfare Fund Council is sponsoring the Christmas in Nashville/Opryland bus trip on Sunday, Dec. 4. The package includes round-trip luxury bus transportation, plus tickets to the Fantasy in Ice display and the Radio City Christmas Spectacular starring the Radio City Rockettes. Cost is \$61 per person. Bus departs the Kroger parking lot at Drake Avenue and South Memorial Parkway at 9 that morning. For more information call Charles Urban, CWFC event coordinator, 955-7662.

Santa's visit

Santa Claus will arrive Dec. 17 at Redstone Arsenal, hosted by the Sergeants Major Association in association with the Vincent Fire Station and the Military Police. His visit will begin at the fire station that Saturday morning where he will be escorted by members of the Military Police, Fire Department and the association – and of course some of his elves. They depart Vincent Station at about 9:30 a.m. going to

Columbia Centre housing area. They will continue to Voyager Village and Apollo Landing, on to Freedom Landing, Pathfinder Pointe, and then on to Endeavor Village, New Endeavor Village and Saturn Pointe. He will make a brief stop by the Redstone Lodging office and his final destination will be Challenger Heights. For those children who live in those areas that are under construction, Santa will make every effort to reach you. Santa is looking forward to seeing all the children of Redstone Arsenal on his annual visit. Listen closely for the sirens and horns.

Veterinary clinic

The Veterinary Treatment Facility will conduct evening clinics Thursday from 4-7 p.m. Authorized patrons will be seen on a walk-in basis for routine vaccinations. Heartworm, feline leukemia tests and microchip identification will also be available for pets. For more information, call the facility 876-2441.

Budgeting class

Army Community Service will sponsor a Financial Budgeting class Dec. 6 from 2-4 p.m. at building 3338, conference room. This class is open to all ID card holders. To reserve a seat, call Kathleen Riester 876-5397.

Redstone holiday party

The Team Redstone Holiday Party is Dec. 9 at the Officers and Civilians Club. The event will begin with a 6 p.m. social. Reservations can be made for \$28 per person. Ted Cannon's Music Machine will be on hand to DJ the event. For reservations or more information, call Sarah Brazzel 313-0546.

Pancake breakfast

The Southern Splendor Chorus, of the Barbershop Harmony Society, is hosting a pancake breakfast Saturday from 7-10 a.m. at Applebee's on Highway 72 and I-65 in Athens.

Weather closings

If inclement weather causes Redstone Arsenal to close or delay its opening, tune in to any of the following stations for the most current information: radio – WAHR, 99.1 FM; WDRM, 102 FM; WEKR, 1240 AM; WEUP, 1600 AM; WGSV, 1270 AM; WJAB, 90.9 FM; WLRH, 89.3 FM; WRAB, 1380 AM; WRSA, 97 FM; WTKI, 1450 AM; WVNN, 770 AM; WWIC, 1050 AM; WZYP, 104.3 FM; television — WAAY (Channel 31), WAFF (Channel 48) and WHNT (Channel 19). Two additional methods have been implemented to provide current information about delays or closures: You can call 955-8445 to hear a recorded announcement, or you can click the button for

See Announcements on page 26

