

Redstone Rocket

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Putting their best foot forward

Soldier returned from Iraq starts shoe project for kids

By KIM HENRY

Staff writer

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Students at Monte Santo Elementary got an international lesson in the art of giving which should put them at least a foot above their contemporaries.

When Maj. Russell Dunford deployed to Iraq in September he did more than just keep in touch with his daughter Annie, who had just started at Monte Santo Elementary. He created a constant correspondence with her class by sending postcards and items including Iraqi clothes, coins and books and Army clothing items and HOOAH Bars.

Once Dunford returned to Huntsville, the lessons didn't stop. On March 31 he visited Monte Santo Elementary to talk to the kids about his experience in the Middle East and also to get their support in a special project called "Monte Santo Sole Train."

Dunford, assistant product manager for Scout Attack Helicopters, said after his deployment his daughter's school asked if there was anything they could do to support the Soldiers or people in the Middle East. What came foremost to his mind were the Iraqi kids who are without shoes.

"If we wake up, go out to our car and it won't start we think we are having a bad day," Dunford said. "Those heroes over there wake up and don't have shoes. It puts it all into perspective."

He explained how the children in Iraq are much like them and also very different. "The children go to school, but they have very few buses so they have to walk," Dunford told a group of second-grade and younger. "How many people walked to school this morning?" One youngster chimed in, "I walk to school everyday."

He also explained how the Army was working to build better schools for the children since most of their buildings were made out of adobe. "What are you sitting on now? You are sitting on a nice floor aren't you," he asked the boys and girls. "Guess what they have for floors? Dirt floors." He said a big difference over there is that many of the Iraqi children don't have shoes.

To give the children a chance to help others, Dunford created the "Monte Santo Sole Train" drive. He told the kids that for the next two weeks they would be collect-



Photo by Kim Henry

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS— Maj. Russell Dunford, who returned from duty in Iraq, has assistance from his younger daughter Abbie as he answers questions from his daughter Annie's class at Monte Sano Elementary.



Photo by Kim Henry

LOVE, PEACE AND SOLE— Students at Monte Sano Elementary will collect shoes in the "Monte Sano Sole Train" box for Iraqi children.



Photo by Kim Henry

DIFFERENT LOOK— A student at Monte Sano Elementary studies the Iraqi money that Maj. Russell Dunford brought as part of his presentation.

ing shoes in the Sole Train box. On Friday, Dunford will pick up the donated shoes and send them to Iraq, where he hopes to get a picture of the shoes being distributed.

To give the kids an idea of what to donate, he explained that though kids over there wear tennis shoes they normally wear sandals. One little girl in the front row got so excited, she raised her hand and said, "I have some sandals at home that don't fit me anymore." Other kids, shouted "Me too." In response, Dunford asked her if the

sandals were in good condition and if she would donate them. As she nodded yes, she replied, "They're blue."

In preparing the shoes, Dunford asked that the children put them a plastic bag and write the size on it. "The Soldiers are very busy and they will have hundreds of children there to give shoes to," he said. "So if

See Shoes on page 3

An open lane random survey

What do you think about how the military is portrayed by the media?

By **KELLEY LANE**
Staff writer
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*Brenda Jemison
military spouse*

"For the most part I think it is portrayed well. Most everybody seems to be supportive. It's about as accurate as it can be."

rate as it can be."

*Renea Johnson
NASA*

"I think it's fine. I don't have a problem with it personally."



*Rosa Parker
DoD civilian*

"In my personal opinion, whenever it's positive news it's pretty accurate. Whenever there is something negative, they just latch onto it and beat it into the ground."

ive, they just latch onto it and beat it into the ground."

Pvt. Daniel Evanbrooks

"I think they do a good job with a lot of things, but they really hate President Bush."



Quote of the week

'Let a joy keep you. Reach out your hands and take it when it runs by.'

— *Carl Sandburg*

Letters to the Editor

Commander's letter: Prevent abuse

I am issuing this proclamation in support of Child Abuse Prevention Month in the Army, April 2006. The most recent Department of Army report on child fatalities is a sobering reminder of the need for an effective, installation-wide response.

- We need to recognize child abuse and the dangerous circumstances that can lead to a child's death.
- We need to respond to what we see and know, keeping the safety of our children uppermost in our minds.
- We need to report all forms of child abuse. Situations of child neglect can lead to child deaths.

The report on child fatalities shows that all too often child abuse incidents that were identified off post were not reported to military authorities.

Over half of the adults involved in Army child abuse fatalities had

substance abuse and/or behavioral health issues. Six deaths occurred while the Soldier was deployed. Two fatalities were identified as possible shaken baby syndrome cases. Three fatalities were directly attributed to post partum depression.

Children under the age of 3 were the victims in 76 percent of all child abuse fatalities.

We must commit ourselves to protect our children, and keep them safe. Pay attention to the early warning signs. Reach out to families under stress living on and off post. Recognize, respond, and report child abuse and neglect.

For information and support in preventing child fatalities, contact the Family Advocacy Program at 876-5397. They can help.

Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury
commander, AMCOM
and Redstone

Calling for traffic safety

I was on my way out of Gate 9 last night (April 4) and saw something I think is funny and sad. We all know it's now illegal to use a cell phone while driving but I still see a lot of people doing it. I got a laugh because the lady in front of me was going on with her phone shoved in her ear, when I looked

down at her license plate; it was printed "SFTYGRL." Maybe that stands for softy but I figure it was supposed to be safety. And to give the stats, I on average see about 15 people a day driving on the phone.

Steven C. Mullins
contractor

Enlightened by energy conservation

I just read the article on the utilities in (the April 5) *Rocket* and was actually surprised to read that the Garrison has an energy conservation policy. I work in the Sparkman Center and it's routine for people to leave their monitor on, computer speakers on, and the hutch/desk light on in their cubicle 24-7. I realize that PCs sometimes

need to be left on to distribute IAVA patches. Just think of the energy that could be saved if everyone turned off their monitors, speakers and lights at night and on weekends.

Jack Alford
web developer,
Computing Technologies

Letter policy

Letters to the editor must be signed by the writer. The *Rocket* will withhold names upon request. Letters can be sent via e-mail to skip.vaughn@redstone.army.mil or faxed to 955-9138. The deadline for letters and all other submissions to the *Rocket* is noon Friday.

Faces of war stay in memory

In October 2004, Sgt. John Wilson was a member of the 10th Mountain Division, operating in Iraq. This was the fourth deployment for the 10th Mountain Division since 9/11, and their mission was focused on one thing beyond all else — staying alive. Sgt. Wilson had a lot to live for. He was 26 years old, married, and had two small children.

On a typical day in October 2004, Sgt. Wilson was on patrol in Baghdad when a rocket propelled grenade hit the armor of his Humvee right at the point where he was sitting. The RPG did not penetrate the armor, but it made a large dent that slammed into Sgt. Wilson's side, causing internal bleeding. Sgt. Wilson was transported to the 31st Combat Support Hospital in the Green Zone. (Although heavily fortified, the Green Zone does not attribute its name because it is in a safe place. The Iraqis call it the green zone because it has a lot of trees.)

Surgery on Sgt. Wilson, to stop internal bleeding, was successful. Soon, he was conscious and joking with his buddies, who liked him a lot. But the shock of his injury set off a chain of events inside his body. His immune system shut down. His blood pressure and circulation dropped. He was transferred to the Intensive Care Unit, but his condition continued to worsen. Due to poor blood circulation, his right arm had to be amputated at the elbow. His skin color turned purple and his body swelled. He had a fever, causing constant sweating on his forehead. The treating physician had a phone conversation with a physician from the 10th Mountain Division and discussed the possibility of withdrawal of care. (Withdrawal of care does not equate with walking away from a patient. Medical care continues but, because of the exigencies of combat, heroic efforts will not be made to save a patient to whom withdrawal of care applies, in order to conserve limited resources.) This information was relayed to Sgt. Wilson's battalion commander, who would not accept this option. After a 45-minute convoy, the battalion commander arrived at the 31st Combat Support Hospital with his physician, his lawyer, his executive officer and a bunch of angry Soldiers.

A meeting was held in the office of the deputy commander for clinical services. Present were the DCCS, the 31st CSH commander and his executive officer, the treating physician and lead ICU nurse, the battalion commander, his XO, his doctor, his lawyer and myself. The battalion commander's agenda was clear: Everything possible will be done to save Sgt. Wilson. The treating physician stated that this goal was possible, but only if Sgt. Wilson's immune system started working. It was a dilemma: spend

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Redstone Rocket

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Getting to know you

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

Name: Capt. Tim Snider

Job: Aide de camp to AMCOM's commanding general

Where do you call home?
Aberdeen, Wash.

What do you like about your job?
I would say the people that I've met. I've met some incredible people – like the secretary of the Army and the vice chief of staff of the Army.

What do you like to do in your spare time?
Play golf and pretty much hang out with my family (wife, Tanya, 4-year-old son, Matthew, and daughter due to be born in July).

What are your goals?
To retire as at least the rank of



lieutenant colonel, and get my master's degree before I'm eligible to retire in five years.

What's your favorite type of music?
I would have to say classic rock 'n' roll.

Wartime heroes never fade away

Face

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precious resources on someone who probably won't survive, at the risk of losing someone with a better chance of survival.

The 31st CSH commander decided to maintain the status quo, pending a legal review. I was the senior legal adviser to the commanding general, 2nd Medical Brigade, as well as senior legal adviser to all subordinate commands, including the 31st CSH. After the 31st CSH commander's decision, the room became totally silent, with all eyes fixed on me, and I did not know what to do. After what seemed an eternity, the treating ICU nurse asked, "Would you like to see the patient?" I said yes, and we began walking upstairs to the ICU. Along the way, I had a Field of Dreams moment. A voice inside of me said, "If you touch him, it will be OK." My first thought was to wonder what it meant, and question whether I really heard it. But then it happened again.

In ICU, I saw Sgt. Wilson for the first time. The purple color of his skin and his swollen body made him look like something other than human. He was not conscious, but had an intensely serious look on his face. It was clear to all who saw him that he was fighting tremendously hard to stay alive. The look on his face, and the purpose of my visit, felt like a knife in my heart.

Again I heard the voice, but was too embarrassed to do anything. I stayed by Sgt. Wilson's bedside, hoping there would be a moment when no one was looking, so I could touch him. When I thought I had that opportunity, I placed my hand on his sweaty forehead and moved

my hand gently across it. I looked up and saw an ICU nurse who was watching me. Embarrassed, I said, "I gave him the magic touch, so now he's gonna be OK." The nurse smiled at me and shook her head no. I asked her if amputating his right arm is going to help and she told me no, and added that cases like Sgt. Wilson were emotionally the hardest on the medical staff because they literally have to chop the patient up, a little at a time, in order to keep them alive. My heart sank lower than I thought possible. I touched his forehead one more time and, with tears in my eyes, I went to the 31st CSH commander's office and said, "Sir, regarding Sgt. Wilson, there is no legal objection to withdrawal of care."

I can't describe how sadness feels in a moment like that, but I needed to talk to someone about it. I returned to brigade headquarters, got a satellite phone and called my mom, who is a retired critical care nurse. She told me that one of the last senses that a dying person loses is the sense of touch. Suddenly it was clear to me. The voice I heard was not about me, or touching someone to heal them. It was about Sgt. Wilson and giving comfort to him. This made me feel a little better, and gave me the urge to see him again. I went back to the ICU to spend more time with him but, when I got there, Sgt. Wilson was dead.

Sgt. Wilson's is one of many faces that I see every day. He is one of many heroes in the conflict in Iraq, and among those who have earned the right to be remembered. But if I had a wish, it would be that, for just one day, I would not have to see their faces.

Jim DeBron
Legal Office

Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

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

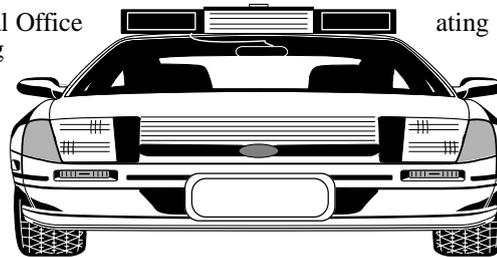
March 30: An individual reported that he was assaulted in the barracks. The subject was apprehended and transported to the Provost Marshal Office for processing. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

April 2: The Fire Department responded to a fire alarm at building 5400 and reported fire damage to an electrical box.

April 2: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a revoked driver's license during an inspection at Gate 9. Further investigation revealed the subject had no tag and no proof of insurance. He was issued two violation notices and released.

April 4: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license during an inspection at Gate 9. He was issued a violation notice and released.

April 4: An individual was found to be oper-



ating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license when he was stopped for speeding. He was issued two violation notices and released.

April 5: An individual was observed in the Post Exchange selecting several items, concealing them and then leaving without rendering the proper payment. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

April 5: An individual was observed in the Post Exchange selecting several items, concealing them and then leaving without rendering the proper payment. Investigation continues by the Provost Marshal Office.

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

Violation notices issued: 13 speeding, 1 failure to obey traffic control device, 3 driving with a suspended driver's license, 1 unsafe driving, 3 inattentive driving, 1 parked in a fire lane, 1 parked in a handicapped space, 2 failure to use seatbelt, 1 failure to use child restraint, 1 failure to secure equipment.

Soldier returns from Iraq with shoe donation idea

Shoes

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it is in a bag like this then we can help a lot of the kids a lot faster."

The dissemination of shoes is no easy job, but the Soldiers have devised a way to make things easier. "They take a board and draw the different sizes of shoes and then let the children walk up and put their foot down. So very quickly they know what size the child wears," Dunford said.

As part of his presentation Dunford showed how long his trip to the Middle East took, the size of Iraq, and gave them a quick lesson in the Iraqi language and numbers. As the kids listened, they were eager with questions. One youngster asked, "Are you a real Army man?" When Dunford replied yes, another child shouted, "Cool."

Now that Dunford has returned from his deployment, things should return to normal for him and his family. But the cultural appreciation that Annie and her classmates received should last a lifetime.



HELMET TO HELMET— Students try on Army helmets at Monte Sano Elementary. Referring to the communication microphone in the aviator helmet, one child said "It's like mission control."

Photo by Kim Henry

Former Buffalo Soldier recalls segregated Army

*World War II veteran
Purple Heart recipient*

By **KARI HAWKINS**
Staff writer
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There's a lot of history walking around with George O'Connor. But it's not in a history book.

Rather, it is in the stories – some funny, some inspiring and many intriguing – that he tells of his service in the segregated Army of World War II.

At 84, O'Connor is one of the last of the Buffalo Soldiers, and probably the only Buffalo Soldier to be found in North Alabama.

“During World War II, we were the personification of the current day Buffalo Soldier,” he said.

The Buffalo Soldiers were units of black Soldiers that formed after the Civil War to fight in the Indian Wars and the Spanish American War. They battled Crazy Horse, helped capture Geronimo and Billy the Kid, and strung telegraph lines across the West. It is thought they got the name Buffalo Soldier from the Indians for their fearlessness and courage, and for the dreadlocks that reminded the Indians of the tuft between the horns of the bison.

That era of the Buffalo Soldier was before O'Connor's time. Buffalo Soldiers did not participate as organized units during World War I. But after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, the military needed men and, under political and social pressure, Congress formed the 92nd and 93rd Infantry as black divisions.

And that's where O'Connor entered the picture.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

LIVING LEGACY— World War II Buffalo Soldier veteran George O'Connor has many stories to tell from his service fighting Germans in Italy. He is a senior vice commander in the 2201 Military Order of the Purple Heart, Huntsville chapter.

Earlier in the war effort while working in Brooklyn, N.Y., O'Connor tried to join the Army Air Corps, but a detected heart problem kept him out of that branch of the service. Then, O'Connor was drafted in 1942.

At the induction center, the men were divided between white and black troops. O'Connor, who is actually of Irish, Venezuelan and Portuguese descent, became one of 15,000 men who made up the all-black 92nd Infantry.

See **Soldier** on page 5

Woman worker travels across custom barrier

Trips to Saudi Arabia go with territory

By **KARI HAWKINS**
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Patricia Mance has a job that not too many people want.

As the contracting officer for the Saudi Arabia Missile Air Defense Program, she travels regularly to Saudi Arabia to meet with officers of the Royal Saudi Air Defense Forces (RSADF) and contracting company representatives of Saudi Logistics and Technical Support (SALTS).

It is a job that not too many men want because of the dangers of traveling to and from Saudi Arabia.

But, as a woman, Mance regularly faces those dangers as well as particular challenges in being a woman working with Saudi officials. And, she does it with the matter-of-factness of a seasoned Soldier who has served in the Middle East. Her 32 years as a reservist has taken her to Saudi Arabia and Kuwait in 1991 during Operation Desert Storm and in 2003 to Kuwait during Operation Iraqi Freedom. She is a major in a Reserve unit headquartered in St. Louis.

"Being a reservist, I had already been subjected to Saudi Arabia customs before taking this job," she said.

"In the past, no one from the acquisition area ever traveled to Saudi Arabia. I don't know of many acquisition people traveling to foreign countries. I think having the military experience in my background has made me strong as a professional who does the job she is assigned."

Her experience with the people she has met in the Middle East has made her comfortable with the travel demands of her job and cautious about the risks she takes while in Saudi Arabia. She is understanding of the beliefs Saudi men have about women.

"I've been 18 or 19 times to Saudi Arabia in the last six years," she said.

"The Saudis, at least most of them, will talk to a woman. I really haven't had much problem except with one program manager who wouldn't talk directly to me. He would talk to one of his fellow officers who wasn't as devout in the Muslim teachings and that officer would relate messages to me. But, for the most part, all the officials on both the government and contracting sides have been receptive."

As a professional woman working for



Photo by Kari Hawkins

FREQUENT FLIER— When she's not working in her third floor office in building 5303, Patricia Mance is most likely to be in Saudi Arabia, where she works with officers of the Royal Saudi Air Defense Forces and a local contractor to procure items necessary to support Soldier logistics.

the Army, Mance is not intimidated by the risks of traveling in a country where women are second-class citizens.

"I just do my job and support them the best I can," she said. "I never let it concern me. I remain the professional that I am and do my job."

Mance's job is made safer in that travel is limited to what is necessary. She spends much of her time in a secure American compound in Jeddah, where the Patriot Field Office is located as well as shops, restaurants, grocery stores and villas.

"But every time I step outside the wall, I have to wear an abeya," she said, referring to the cover-all that women must wear in public.

"We go outside the compound as minimally as we can. Because of the situation we only go when we minimally have to. Personally, I am not taking any chances. I'm not risking my life to go shopping."

Mance usually travels with Christopher Chavez, chief of the Saudi Air Defense Branch, Security Assistance Management Directorate.

"Last time, I traveled by myself, though," she said. "I had no problems, no altercations. But once I'm there, I don't travel by myself. Women there either travel with other women or with a family member."

Soldiers serve as science fair judges

Alabama level winners advance to international

By **SKIP VAUGHN**
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Redstone was represented Friday at the annual Alabama Science and Engineering Fair on the campus of University of Alabama-Huntsville.

Nine of the judges included Soldiers from the Garrison and the 184th Individual Mobilization Augmentee Detachment (Acquisition and Logistics).

“We’re judging science and engineering projects for the State of Alabama level competition and we’re representing the Research Development and Engineering Command, Army Research Office,”

Reserve Lt. Col. Steven Froniabarger of the 184th said.

Froniabarger, a procurement officer at the Acquisition Center, has served as a judge in the fair since 2002. The 184th has provided judges since 1987.

The contestants were from middle and high schools throughout Alabama. There were about 200 displays at UAH’s Spragins Hall in the areas of engineering, environmental science, math and computers, physical science and life science.

Twenty awards were to be presented Saturday. They included 10 certificates of appreciation for involvement and 10 winners – two for each of the five categories. The winners, who will advance to the international science and engineering fair, each received a \$100 savings bond, a T-shirt and a medallion.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

LET’S DISCUSS— Judging a display in the state science fair are, from left, **Spc. Raymond Weemes** and **Spc. Jessica Roman**, both of the Garrison, and Reserve Lt. Col. **Steven Froniabarger** of the 184th IMA Detachment.

Learning to improve internal work processes

Missile project leaders
join class of green belts

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
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Workers consulted each other at various tables in the conference room at a Huntsville office building. They were simulating the administrative processes of an airplane factory.

The exercise was part of the weeklong Lean Six Sigma Green Belt training session for the Joint Attack Munition Systems Project Office. AMCOM's Office of Continuous Improvement conducts the training at Redstone and at Fort Rucker.

"This is about the seventh wave we've done now between here and Fort Rucker," Brian Wood, director of the Office of Continuous Improvement, said. "This is the first missile system project office we've done."

The goal is to teach workers how to improve their office's internal processes.

"Once they complete the training, we're ensuring they're utilizing their skills through the completion of a green belt project that they assist us with," Wood said.

Col. Mike Cantor, JAMS project manager, was among 26 members of his leadership team who took the training April 3-7.

"Our vision for the office is to become



Photo by Skip Vaughn

CHARTING PROGRESS— Tom Ray, from the Office of Continuous Improvement, describes the group's progress during the airplane factory exercise.

a benchmark organization," Cantor, the project manager since Aug. 31, said.

This training also serves as an opportunity for team building, according to deputy project manager Bill Ruta.

The two facilitators from the Office of Continuous Improvement were master black belt Danita Brooks and black belt Tom Ray, an employee of Analytical Services Inc.

Also last week, the office conducted a Lean Six Sigma spares acquisition project at Redstone. Attendees from various



Photo by Skip Vaughn

PRACTICAL EXERCISE— Members of the JAMS Project Office participate in an exercise simulating the administrative processes of an airplane factory.

organizations involved in the acquisition of spare parts met throughout the week to devise ways to improve that process. The facilitators included ASI employee Ed Wensell, Dave Michaels and Linda Hall.

The Office of Continuous Improvement,

part of the Aviation and Missile Command, has 19 members including Army civilians and contract support. Two contract workers are at the Aviation Center Logistics Command at Fort Rucker and two at Corpus Christi Army Depot, Texas.

Contributing to a military/civilian community

Native Huntsvillian donates her time

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
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Liz Blackmon likes contributing to the city where she was born.

The Huntsville native is among 18 nominees for Redstone Arsenal Army Volunteer Corps Volunteer of the Year awards for 2005-06. The awards luncheon is April 20 at 11 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club.

"I love the feeling of volunteering and putting back into your community," said

Blackmon, who received one of the 2004-05 awards for military dedicated community service. "I love this community and I'm very proud of the fact they're very supportive of the military community and I would like for that to continue."

Her husband, retired Chief Warrant Officer John Blackmon, is also a Huntsville native. He served 30 years as an Ordnance officer.

Liz Blackmon, a protocol assistant in AMCOM Protocol and Command Management Support, volunteers with the Officer and Civilian Women's Club, the Warrant Officers Association, and the American Society of Military Comptrollers. She's been doing volunteer work about 30 years.

Redstone Arsenal recognizes its volunteers each year for National Volunteer Week, April 23-29.

"They save the community over a million dollars every year in services," Larry Leggett, quality of life manager at Army Community Service and the luncheon coordinator, said. For more information about the luncheon, call him at 842-8375.

This year's nominees include Blackmon, Sharon Samuelson, Katrina Wynn, Maj. Derek Santiago, Spc. Draper Hollier, Lloyd Ackerman, Yashira Rodriguez, Brandon Crutcher, Elizabeth Bland, Janeshia Henderson, Tayla Blake, Olivia March, Octavia March, Willie Brazile Jr., Tiffany London, Sonya West, Gabriel Cannon and Gisela Mullek.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

AWARD NOMINEE— Protocol assistant Liz Blackmon is among 18 nominees for Redstone Arsenal volunteer of the year awards.

■ Contracting officer visits Saudi for her customers

Traveler

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Even when she does travel with Chavez, there can be problems. Last August, Mance was nearly denied exit out of Saudi Arabia because airport officials claimed something was wrong with her visa.

Her husband, Steve Mance, does worry about her travels, but he is use to that as the husband of a reservist. He himself is a retired Reserve lieutenant colonel who works as an engineering psychologist for the Research Development and Engineering Center.

"We know the situation over there can change with the blink of an eye," Mance said. "I'm going into an unstable environment. On 9/11, 16 of the 19 men were from Saudi Arabia. You never know who your friends are there. Whenever I go outside the gate, I don't call attention to myself."

Before traveling to Saudi Arabia, Mance must be briefed on security concerns.

"When I first started going over there,

there was very little preparation," she said. "Now, before we can make a trip to Saudi Arabia we have to take an anti-terrorism course online and have a country-specific briefing within 60 days of our travel. That briefing gives us the latest intelligence and lets us know what we are walking into."

Mance travels to Saudi Arabia once a quarter to check on contracts valued from as little as \$30 to more than \$2 million that have been contracted to SALTS.

"We have a basic order and agreement with SALTS to provide local procurement of services, equipment and materials to support RSADF logistics," Mance said.

"Examples would be spare parts, camouflage nets, protective vests and whatever Soldiers need in the field or whatever RSADF needs to support the Soldier. Right now, there are 15 open requirements in different stages of the acquisition process. This is just a small part of a whole program."

She works out of the Patriot Field Office in Jeddah and flies to Riyadh as needed to meet with RSADF and SALTS

officials. She just returned from a trip in March and will travel to Saudi Arabia again in July.

"I am required by the Saudis to go over to Saudi Arabia to meet with the contractor to make sure requirements are being fulfilled and to keep status on the different requirements they are trying to procure," Mance said. "I also meet with RSADF officers. They are the customer."

All of Mance's travels have been at the request of RSADF.

"The Saudi officials really like to have that one-on-one," she said. "They like to talk directly to a contracting officer when they are relaying their concerns. And we get more of a response from the contractor when we are standing in front of them asking them questions."

Beginning in 1998, when Mance and her husband were transferred from St. Louis to Redstone Arsenal, Mance served as the Foreign Military Sales contracting officer for the Saudi Arabia Aviation Program. In 2003, she was deployed as a reservist to Kuwait to serve for 10 months with the 455th Transportation Detachment out of St. Louis (now the 455th Terminal

Supervision Team). Because she was a Level III qualified contracting officer, she was reassigned as a contingency contracting officer for the Southwest Asia Contracting Command and Coalition Forces Land Component Command-Principle Assistant Responsible for Contracting.

When she returned from that deployment, she continued in her contracting work to support the Aviation Program and was then assigned to also provide contract support to the Missile Program. In May 2005, she became dedicated exclusively to the Missile Program.

Mance works for the Acquisition Center for the FMS/Hawk/UGV/AH-1/UH-1 Division under chief Darlene Thomas and Eugene Walton, director of RDEC and FMS/Hawk/UGV Directorate. FMS/HAWK/UGV/AH-1/UH-1 is an acronym for foreign military sales of the Hawk missile system, unmanned guided vehicles, attack helicopter and utility helicopters.

"They both support me in whatever I need to go TDY to Jeddah, Saudi Arabia," Mance said. "They both provide me with the support and assistance I need to do this job."

Deployed servicemembers become American citizens

CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait – Servicemembers deployed to Kuwait became U.S. citizens April 6 during a naturalization ceremony at chapel here.

Fifty-seven soldiers and sailors from 26 different countries were presented a certificate by Army Lt. Gen. R. Steven Whitcomb, Third U.S. Army commander, and Matthew Tueller, charge d'affaires of the U.S. Embassy Kuwait.

"It is a great day to be an American," Whitcomb said. "I am not only happy and proud to be here as a Soldier, but as an American as well."

"As new citizens to the United States, I salute you," Tueller said. "From today on, you have the opportunity to pursue the American Dream."

Special guests from the Department of Homeland Security's U.S. Citizen and

Immigration Services, Rome office, participated in the ceremony. Lori Pietropaoli, officer in charge, administered the oath of allegiance and presented the certificates. Joseph Hackbarth, immigration officer, presented the candidates.

To become eligible for U.S. citizenship, a person must demonstrate good moral character, an understanding of U.S. history and government, and comprehension of the English language.

The ceremony was the first one conducted since mid-December as servicemembers from all over Kuwait, Iraq and Qatar took the oath to become U.S. citizens.

Editor's note: This article from the American Forces Press Service is based on a Coalition Forces Land Component Command news release.



American Forces Press Service

TAKING OATH— Fifty-seven soldiers and sailors from 26 different countries become naturalized U.S. citizens in a ceremony at a chapel in Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, April 6.

Soldiers become quality parts of Quality Management

Civilian office adds to staff

By KELLEY LANE
Staff writer
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Some jobs on Redstone are known as civilian jobs. They always have been held by civilians and still are. The Quality Management Division of the Aviation Systems Branch had always been civilian territory, too, until they made two additions – quality assurance specialists Staff Sgt. Ernest Helmick and Sgt. 1st Class Patrick Moore.

“Previous Quality organizations at ATCOM, St. Louis did include Soldiers. However these spaces were eliminated during BRAC and reorganization,” Randall Britton, chief for Aviation Systems Branch of the Quality Management Division of Engineering Directorate for RDEC and RDECOM, said. “Quality Management hired our first Soldier in April 2003.”

Together with the civilian team, these Soldiers go about the daily business of making sure that the items and parts needed to keep the Army’s aircraft ready and running meet the guidelines set forth for their respective programs. With that job becoming even busier since the Global War on Terrorism began, adding Soldiers to the organization made sense for many reasons.

“The GWOT has greatly increased the workload of Quality Management and our organization was seeking ways to quickly add capability to meet this vital mission without exceeding personnel ceilings,” Britton said. “Secondarily, it has been a long standing goal of Quality Management to increase customer satisfaction through more and better contacts with our customer, the Soldier. We seek to do this by developing new channels for communication and when we became aware of the PFI program, where Soldiers are directly emplaced into our organization, saw it as an ideal way to accomplish both goals.”

Once a vendor is selected to supply new parts or overhaul existing ones and placed under contract, QM steps in to make sure that every regulation is being met so that the parts that will head back to the field make the grade. Having a Soldier’s perspective can also help find an issue before it becomes a problem.

“Our Soldiers support, supplement and in all cases work side-by-side with our Quality Assurance specialists in the execution of action officer responsibilities. In addition, they assist us in developing and sustaining our



Photo by Kelley Lane

PLANNING SESSION— Staff Sgt. Ernest Helmick, left, and Sgt. 1st Class Patrick Moore go over drawings one last time before sending them out with an audit team.

contacts with the Soldier in the field to facilitate the ongoing communication we require to improve and respond to concerns and issues,” Britton said. “These direct channels of communication often provide us with ‘early warnings’ of problems which may or may not be brought to our attention, almost always much later, through the function of more standard and established methods. The benefits of such ‘early warnings’ accrue not only to our organization, but through sharing of such information, with all affected functional areas.”

Helmick said a large part of the job is behind the desk, working with drawings and documentation. However, it isn’t all they do. Once a selected vendor is at work, an audit team goes to their location to physically check out what’s going on.

“We go out and have a product verification audit. I work two vendors on the west coast. Sgt. Moore works one in Wisconsin and is going to pick up another in Ohio,” Helmick said.

“I’ve been to Korea three times to do an audit over there,” Moore added.

Helmick thinks that simply seeing a Soldier reminds contractors exactly who it is they’re working for.

“I think they need to continue to have Soldiers in here. There is definitely an advantage to it,” Helmick said. “When you walk in there and you’re wearing a uniform there is a different air. You can just tell. It seems like everybody in that contractor’s facility stands a little straighter.”

He also said that respect for his uniform tends to put him in a position of immediate authority.

“I had a mission in Florida to check out a small problem with a window in a CH-47. So myself and Diane Scofield went down. She was training me,” Helmick said. “I walk in and the vendor automatically started directing

all his answers to me. She was the one training me. She came back and told our boss that she was amazed how someone being in uniform got things done so quickly. We face that a lot.”

Britton agreed.

“From an external standpoint, our Soldiers have extensively interfaced with contractors with exceptionally positive results. The impact of their having provided face-to-face feedback to contractors, as the actual user, in terms of the importance of producing the best possible products, has been invaluable in motivating contractors to ‘do the right thing,’” he explained. “Their presence has given us a new tool in the constant challenge of obtaining maximum contractor commitment to delivery of quality products. They have often instilled a sense of patriotism and commitment in contractors, taking the relationship beyond one motivated by dollars and cents to one of commitment to our country and the Soldiers fighting for it.”

Moore said being a part of the team has also helped them better understand the Soldiers’ civilian counterparts and the challenges they face.

“After coming on this side of the field, that’s when I really saw what a difference it makes. Being a Soldier on the other side, I had never seen anything about procurement, quality and their (civilians) work,” Moore explained. “You see the whole works from here. I really appreciate the civilians now. They are our first line of quality and safety to make sure things are right. They’re really looking out for us Soldiers. They need to be commended for the work they do.”

Both sides have learned from the experience, Britton added, with civilians gaining a perspective they might not have otherwise.

“The Soldiers in our organiza-

tion provide an invaluable customer perspective of the needs and concerns that are shared by all Soldiers in the field. Their presence to provide these perspectives, attached to an actual name and face, lends credence and immediacy to all of our internal interfaces within the AMCOM/RDECOM community,” Britton said. “We have seen greater respect and recognition for the importance of Quality when our Soldiers have added their voice and viewpoint to ours in the many dialogues and decisions we are involved in on a daily basis.”

As reservists, both came to their positions through the Partnership For Integrity program along with a third Soldier, Warrant Officer Ed Ingold, who completed his assignment in January and has moved on to his next duty station.

“What PIF does is allow National Guard and Reserve Soldiers to come on active duty under strict guidelines to positions that otherwise are not tapped into for Soldiers,” Helmick said. “The active Army doesn’t have anyone doing what we’re doing.”

Although they both had been active duty officers before joining the Reserves, they come from slightly different backgrounds.

Helmick is an aviation buff who has served in various Army and Reserve programs throughout his 21 years. After a friend assigned to Redstone told him about the opportunity here with QM two years ago, the West Virginia native saw it as a way to continue and diversify his aviation experience.

“I’ve worked on four different aircraft over the last 20 years,” Helmick said. “I’ve worked on just about everything out there because of ‘Hey, can you give us a hand?’ situations. I joined the Army to be in aviation.”

Moore, however, had no real aviation experience before his current position. He was a communications specialist who was working with Homeland Security in Washington, D.C. when he learned of the QM assignment. An area native, he saw the job as an excellent opportunity that would bring him back home. He has been here in QM now for about three years. He is grateful for the time spent by his co-workers teaching him what he needed to know about aviation, and their continued aid and support.

“They trained me well. The civilian workers took the time to train me to the level that they trust me to go out and conduct these audits,” Moore said. “If I don’t understand anything, because I don’t come from an aviation background, I just go to one of my co-workers and we

just knock it out.”

Now, after several years in QM, both are at home both on the job and off. They believe they should have another year or so before their assignment ends and are thinking they might like to stay.

“Maybe they’ll give us a job here,” Moore quipped.

Helmick added that he’s also feeling the lure of the Huntsville area.

“The area is nice. The people are nice,” he said.

While both Soldiers acknowledge the differences between themselves as Soldiers and their civilian co-workers, they emphasize they are just a part of the whole picture for QM.

“We get a lot of recognition for what we do, but it is a team,” Helmick said. “I think it’s important that everyone know that this team is much larger than just us. It’s great that we’re here, but we’re just a part.”

Britton said the team is better for having had Soldiers on it.

“Quality Management is a better organization for having had the participation of our three Soldiers. I hope we will be able to continue our use of the PFI program to bring Soldiers into our organization,” he said. “From a personal standpoint, many friendships have formed with these three Soldiers and their families that will endure long after they or we move on to other assignments. It has made a positive difference in our personal as well as professional lives and I think we are all better for it.”



Photo by Sonja Smith

Heavy lifting

The 131st Aviation Brigade (Alabama Army National Guard) conducts an initial two-point lift test of a CH-47 in March in San Angelo, Texas.

Here's to you, administrative professionals

April is a special month for administrative professionals.

Administrative Professionals Week is April 23-29, and Administrative Professionals Day, April 26.

Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone Arsenal, signed a proclamation April 3 for the observances.

"Administrative professionals play an essential role in coordinating the office operations of businesses, government, educational institutions, and other organizations," the proclamation stated in part. "The work of administrative professionals today requires advanced knowledge and expertise in communications, computer software, office technology, project management, organization, customer service and other vital office management responsibilities."

Administrative professionals can join an organization such as the International Association of Administrative Professionals to update and enhance their skills. For information about the Redstone Arsenal Chapter, call president Jackie Kenner at 876-8131.

Photo by Skip Vaughn

HAPPY OCCASION— Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury, commander of AMCOM and Redstone, signs a proclamation for Administrative Professionals Week. Looking on from left are, seated, Jackie Kenner, president of Redstone Arsenal Chapter, International Association of Administrative Professionals, and past president June Pockrus. Standing are Hillary Marshall, chairman of Administrative Professionals Week; chapter member Celyvne McCaulley, treasurer Susan Douglas and recording secretary Amanda Medley.



Courtesy photo

Contract pros

The Patriot Advanced Capability-3 Missile Low Rate Initial Production-3 Fixed Price Incentive with Successive-Targets Team won Contract Professional of the Quarter for the fourth quarter of fiscal 2005. Its efforts are credited with saving the government more than \$42.4 million. From left are lead contracting officer Jeri Kirkpatrick, lead price analyst Bob Hasty, Acquisition Center executive director Marlene Cruze, lead contract specialist Wendy Esack and contracting officer Joan Lott.



Courtesy photo

Express appreciation

The AMCOM Express Evaluation Team at the Acquisition Center won Contract Professional of the Quarter and Year Awards for the timely evaluation (approximately 60 days) of the AMCOM Express 26 offers. From left are lead contract specialists Richard Williams and Brenda Showalter, AMCOM commander Maj. Gen. Jim Pillsbury and contract specialists Christie Nix and Randy Nevels. Not shown are lead contract specialist Marcia Tully, contract specialist Cynthia Cross and clerk Elizabeth Gezing.

Car center drives do-it-yourself repairs

Automotive skills taught
by skilled mechanics

By KARI HAWKINS
Staff writer
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Boeing retirees Jerry Levy and Stephen Wilt are longtime friends who like to work on cars together. They like it so much, in fact, they've made a small side business out of buying used cars, fixing them up and reselling them.

Between the cars they drive themselves and the ones they resell, Levy and Wilt often find themselves under the hood of a car. But they don't usually do their work at their home garages. Rather, they opt for a trip to Redstone Arsenal to use the facilities, equipment and tools provided by MWR's Automotive Skills Center.

"We come out here often enough," said Levy, who has served in the Army and was the business manager of the Avenger program before retiring from Boeing.

"We've done brakes, oil changes, water pumps, alternators and other general automotive maintenance out here. I use to do this at home in my garage flat on my back. But the older you get, the harder it is to get on your back. It is well worth the \$4 an hour for a rack to be able to stand under your car while you



Photo by Kari Hawkins

DISTRIBUTOR CAP— Redstone security guard Ben Bridges, right, looks under the hood of his 1991 Corvette with Automotive Skills Center employee Jonathan Luker. The Corvette has been missing when idling or at slow speeds. Luker suggested there may be water in the distributor cap, which Bridges plans to replace.

are making a repair."

Levy and Wilt, who retired from Boeing as the PSC contract business manager, have been friends since 1962. On a recent afternoon, they were at the Automotive Skills Center changing the oil on a 2002 Jaguar. They have been taking advantage of the center's offerings for about five years.

"They've got all the equipment," Levy said. "They've got all the tools. They can loan you all kinds of specialty tools you can't afford to buy. You just bring your supplies. You can look things up on their automotive computer system to get detailed instructions."

The Automotive Skills Center, located in building 3617 on Entac Circle, is just one of many post services offered by Morale Welfare and Recreation to all active duty, National Guard and Reserve; Redstone/NASA civilian and contractor employees; military, civilian and contractor retirees, and their families. MWR has launched a new public awareness campaign to encourage the use of its facilities and programs by all members of the Redstone Arsenal team.

Levy and Wilt weren't the only ones working at the Automotive Skills Center recently. Each day, many customers find the time to stop by to talk with business manager Bill Woosley, instructor Dennis Fitzgibbons, and tool room attendants Jonathan Luker and Jennifer Knighten about their car problems and to do work on their vehicles.

On a recent afternoon, Redstone Arsenal security guard Ben Bridges brought his 1991 white Corvette in to ask about what could be causing it to miss when it is idling or in slower speeds. Fitzgibbons gave him some suggestions to try and Luker talked to him about future mechanical work Bridges wants to do on his vehicle.

"I will definitely be back," said Bridges, who was visiting the garage for the first time.

Retired Air Force Maj. Phil Hollister, a contractor, brought in his wife's 2001 Oldsmobile Intrigue to have the air conditioner checked.

"I rebuilt a couple of engines here," Hollister said. "These people are very helpful and knowledgeable. They will help you every step of the way."

Retired Maj. Mary Hinkson, a military program analyst with COLSA, stopped by to drop off fluids she had replaced in one of the older cars her teenagers are driving. Kenneth Crutch, who served as a second lieutenant and is now a training technician with the Corps of Engineers, and James Brown, who served as a staff sergeant and now works in G-3 Operations, both stopped by to talk about work their vehicles need.

"I've brought my car and truck in here for tune-ups, tires and oil changes," Brown said. "People don't know what they are missing. The people who help you here have a lot of experience, they have great personalities and they are really good people who want to help their

customers."

The Automotive Skills Center offers its customers an easy, safe and economical way to repair their vehicles. Customers work on minor and major repairs or restoration projects under the as-needed guidance of qualified and trained automotive specialists.

"We find out what is wrong for them and then they do the repair," Woosley said. "We instruct them through their maintenance process."

The center's employees are experienced at working with customers at all skill levels.

"Most customers are experienced mechanics," Woosley said. "But we also have people who come in here who absolutely have no clue. We take those who might hurt themselves or their vehicle and we help them. We can teach anyone how to do maintenance and other work on their vehicles. We have great mechanics and they love to help the customers."

The services offered by the Automotive Skills Center keep it a busy place.

"We have return customers because we prove to them they can do it," Woosley said. "We do a real good job showing people they can do it. There is no other facility like ours where you can take your vehicle and work on it yourself."

There are only two requirements for anyone who wants to use the Automotive Skills Center — they have to be able to get on the Arsenal and they have to have a Safety Card, which is issued upon completion of a 30-minute safety class offered at the garage Wednesday through Friday at 7 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday at 9 a.m. The center is open from

1:30 to 10 p.m. Wednesday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Saturday and Sunday.

Many customers will bring their own tools and repair parts. But the Automotive Skills Center can also help their customers in both of these areas.

"You can bring your own tools, sign out one of our tool boxes or come to the Tool Room and get tools as you need them," Woosley said. "People can bring their repair parts or have them delivered here. We have an agreement with O'Reilly's Auto Parts where we can buy parts for our customers at wholesale price plus our added 15 percent mark-up. It is still cheaper than you can get anywhere over the counter."

There are certain machines that only the center's technicians can use, such as the tire changing machine, the 15,000-pound truck lift and the 25-ton hydraulic press. The technicians also run computer engine and transmission diagnostics, do the removal and installation of air conditioning fluids, turn rotors and drums on brakes, and balance tires. The center offers a welding room, paint room, motorcycle lift, mig welder, plasma cutter, sheet-metal brake and bender, Mitchell on-demand repair information and enclosed glass bead blaster.

The Automotive Skills Center also has a wrecker service, which charges \$35 for the first 10 loaded miles and 75 cents for each mile after that.

"We added the wrecker service about two and a half years ago after I visited Fort Campbell (Ky.) to see what kinds of operations they have," Woosley said.

See Repair on page 19



Photo by Kari Hawkins

SAFE DISPOSAL— The Automotive Skills Center offers its customers a place to safely dispose of oil, antifreeze and other environmentally hazardous vehicle fluids. Retired Maj. Mary Hinkson recently visited the center to dispose of fluids she removed from one of the older cars her teenagers drive. She works as a military program analyst for COLSA.

Automotive savings in the fees

Here is a listing of some of the low-cost fees charged by the Automotive Skills Center:

- Long/Short Term Vehicle Storage — \$15 monthly
- Vehicle Outdoor Covered Storage — \$2 daily (1-10 days), \$3 daily (11-30 days)
- Work Bay — \$3 an hour
- Grease Oil Rack — \$4 an hour
- Engine Rebuild Table/Benches — \$2 daily (1-10 days), \$3 daily (11-30 days)
- Battery Charger — \$4 per battery
- Tire Changer — \$2 per tire
- Computerized Wheel Balancing — \$4 per tire
- Welding Gas/Electric — \$5 per 15 minutes
- Paint Spray Booth — \$6 per hour or \$40 daily
- Glass Bead Blaster — \$4 per 15 minutes
- Metal Band Saw — \$4 per 15 minutes
- Wheel Bearing Press — \$5 per use
- Computerized Engine Analyzer — \$10 per use
- Air Conditioning Service — \$35 per use

Repair

continued from page 18

“Our wrecker will go anywhere. If you were broke down in Birmingham, and called and said you want to go to the Auto Skills Center in Huntsville, we would come pick you up. If your car is under warranty in Decatur and it breaks down on the Arsenal, we will pick you up and take you back to Decatur at a fraction of the cost of a regular wrecker service.”

The wrecker has become invaluable for Redstone Arsenal employees and residents whose cars break down on post, he said.

“Since 9/11 it is hard to get a wrecker in the gate,” Woosley said. “Our long-run goals for the wrecker service is to make

the money we need to operate the wrecker and to provide a service to the Redstone Arsenal community.”

Spring is a busy season at the Automotive Skills Center. Many customers bring their vehicles in to take advantage of the \$35 air conditioning service offered at the center. New customers are welcomed at any time.



“You can’t plan a breakdown,” Woosley said. “Mechanical things break down and at the most inopportune time. We’re here to help you with that.”

For more information on the Automotive Skills Center, call 955-7727, or check out its web site at www.redstonemwr.com. For the wrecker service, call 603-9818.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

AT YOUR SERVICE— The Redstone Arsenal wrecker service is operated by Bill Woosley, business manager at the Automotive Skills Center. The wrecker will pick up and deliver vehicles at the request of any member of the Redstone Arsenal team, and do it at a fraction of the cost offered by local wrecker companies.

Car show gears up for charity

Annual fund-raiser promises family fun

Are you looking for a way to support the troops? Do you love cars, trucks, or motorcycles? If the answer is yes to either of

these questions, then Army Emergency Relief could use your support at its fourth annual AER car show fund-raiser, "Cars and Camouflage," on Saturday. The event will be held from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial Museum at 2060A

Airport Road.

"Tuners, hot rods, street rods, classics, motorcycles and trucks," said Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Perkins, detachment sergeant for Fox Army Health Center and coordinator for the show. "The more vehicles, the more money we can donate to AER."

The show is not only open to all types of cars, but it is also open to the public. Access to the car show will be via Airport Road.

The event is free admission, but individuals entering cars will pay a \$20 entry fee for each vehicle. Each registered participant will receive a ticket for free entry into the Veterans Memorial Museum and one dollar off each additional ticket purchased.

"Remember, funds raised are going to a great cause — our Soldiers and their families," Perkins said. Donations for AER will also be accepted on-site.

The event is open to all makes and models. Trophies will be awarded for first, second and third place in 10 categories and one for Best in Show; the judges provided by organizations sponsoring each class select winners. The first 100 cars will get a goody bag and



Courtesy photo

ALL ABOARD— Tuners, hot rods, street rods, classic, motorcycles and trucks are all welcome at the fourth annual "Cars and Camouflage" charity car show of support that benefits Army Emergency Relief.

dash plaque.

"Not only will we have cars, trucks and motorcycles, but we will also have military equipment displays, a 50-50 raffle and door prizes," Perkins said. "This is a great family event, and all we ask is that you support our troops with a donation."

Last year's car show was not only fun for car owners and viewers, the volunteers that worked the show also had a great

time, according to Perkins. "We still need volunteers for a wide range of activities," he said. Volunteers are needed for everything from directing participants to staging areas and traffic control for public parking areas, to registration, and setup.

Potential car registrants and volunteers can contact Perkins at 955-8888, ext. 1146 or thomas.perkins@amedd.army.mil.

Some suggestions for keeping cool

The Redstone Arsenal Energy Management Office provided the following tips regarding cooling.

- Don't set the thermostat colder than normal to cool a room faster. The lower setting will not cool any faster; it will cool to a lower temperature than needed and use more energy.

- To operate an air conditioner more efficiently, use ceiling fans to move air across the skin, lowering skin temperature by evaporation. The temperature can be raised about 4 degrees Fahrenheit without any decrease in comfort. Each degree set above 78 F will save about 7-8 percent on

cooling costs.

- Use landscaping, awnings and overhangs to shade the outside of a house in summer. A shaded house will cost less to cool than one in direct sunlight.

- When possible, use fans to keep cool instead of using the air conditioner. Fans use a small fraction of the energy that an air conditioner will use.

- When leaving a room for a few minutes or more, turn fans off. Letting it run wastes energy and does not cool the empty room. The heat from the motor could warm the room a little.

For more information, call energy manager Mark Smith 842-0014.

Young photographers shoot for success

Youth Center contest winners announced

Here are the winners in the Youth Center's local competition for the Image-Makers National Photography Contest, sponsored by Circuit City Foundation:

- Ages 9 and younger, color process – first place, Andrea Perrin, 9, daughter of Sgt. 1st Class Michelle Perrin, for her picture "Space Travel"; second, Samantha Shyrigh, 7, daughter of Sgt. 1st Class and Mrs. Brent Shyrigh, for "Fun"; and third, Brandon Crutcher, 9, son of Deione Crutcher, for "Double Tree."

- Ages 10-12, color process – first, Taylor Nulk, 11, daughter of Col. and Mrs. Raymond Nulk, for "Reflections"; second, Maria Cunningham, 11, daughter of retired Sgt. 1st Class and Mrs. Daniel Cunningham, for "Bloom"; and third, Cunningham for "Peace."

- Ages 10-12, digital – first, Amber Smith, 12, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Davis Smith, for "Ripple Effect"; second, Smith for "Rolling Hills"; and third, Allan Troendle, 12, son of Sgt. 1st Class and Mrs. Richard Triplett, for "Reflections of the Past."

- Ages 13-15, color process – first, Joshua Snell, 13, son of Staff Sgt. and Mrs. Michael Snell, for "Big Canoe"; second, Snell for "Coon Castle"; and third, Snell for "Anybody Home."

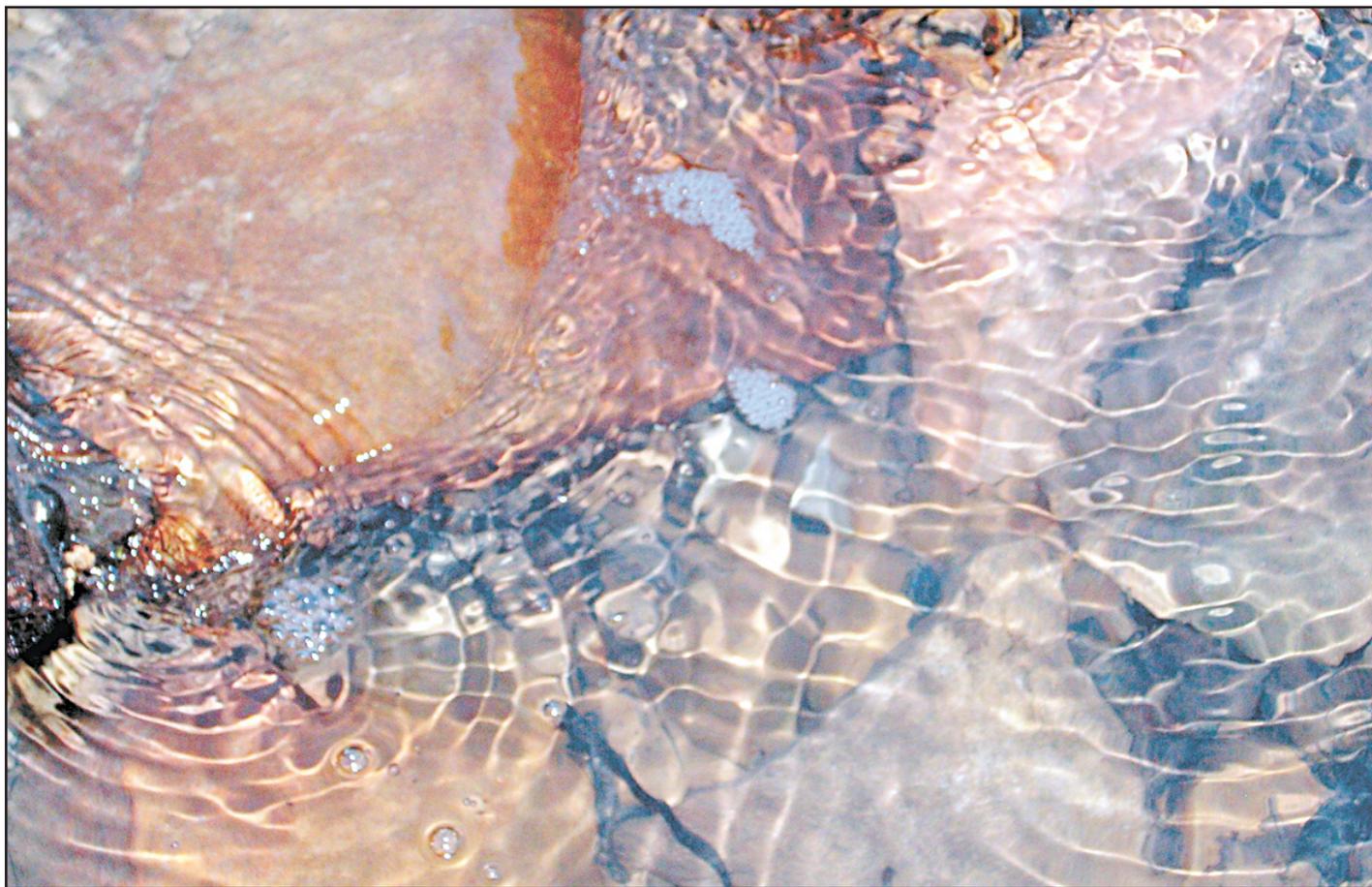


Photo by Amber Smith

RIPPLE EFFECT— This picture by 12-year-old Amber Smith won the digital category for ages 10-12.

All-Army team dominates wrestling championships

Earns fifth straight armed forces title

By TIM HIPPS
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – All-Army wrestlers won 40 of 42 matches and claimed their fifth consecutive Armed Forces Wrestling Championship March 23-24 at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C.

The All-Army team that won 38 of 42 matches in the 2005 Armed Forces Championships was even more dominant this year, partially because former All-Air Force wrestlers Capt. Phillip Johnston and Spc. Aaron Sieracki switched services to wrestle for the Army

They are the latest in a line of military wrestlers to join the Army squad in recent years. Former All-Marine grapplers Staff Sgt. Marcel Cooper, Sgt. Jess Hargrave, Sgt. Kevin Ahearn, Sgt. Albert Sankey and Spc. Timothy Taylor made the move from Quantico, Va., to Fort Carson, Colo. Capt. Neal Rodak left the All-Navy squad to wrestle for the All-Army team.

Ahearn, Sieracki, Johnston and Taylor won gold medals for the All-Army team, which accumulated 12 gold and two silver medals in this year's tournament.

Winning gold medals were: Capt. Eric Albarracin, Spc. Jermaine Hodge, Staff Sgt. James Johnson, Spc. Joshua Habeck, Sgt. Glenn Garrison, Staff Sgt. Dremiel Byers, Spc. Aaron Holker and 2nd Lt. Phillip Simpson.

Pfc. Brandon McNab and Spc. Anton Talamantes earned silver.



Photo by Jamie Cameron

WORK IT— Army Spc. Aaron Holker (top) works a winning combination against Air Force Capt. Ryan Montanez during their 66-kilogram freestyle match in the 2006 Armed Forces Wrestling Championships at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C. Holker won the match and a gold medal for the All-Army team that won 40 of 42 matches in the two-day tournament.

Seven weight classes were contested in both Greco-Roman and freestyle competitions in a round-robin, dual-match format. Army won the team title in both disciplines, followed by the Marine Corps, Air Force and Navy respectively.

All-Army coach Staff Sgt. Shon Lewis was pleased but not content with the Soldiers' performances.

"I'm happy when I see the entire team doing 99.9 percent of the techniques in the positions and doing things right that we worked on in the (wrestling) room," he said. "I was pleased at this time of the year that guys were executing the way they were. I'll be happy when we go to the world championships and come back with four or five medals."

The last two U.S. wrestlers to win world championships are Soldiers in the U.S. Army World

Class Athlete Program. Byers won the super heavyweight Greco-Roman world title in 2002 and Sgt. Iris Smith captured the women's 158.5-pound freestyle world crown in 2004.

"Every year since 2002, we've had someone in the finals of the civilian world championships and the military world championships," Lewis said. "It's just (a matter of) challenging them. We've got to keep pushing, keep grinding and keep trying to wrestle that perfect match."

The U.S. National Wrestling Championships, scheduled for April 14-15 at the Las Vegas Convention Center, is the next tournament for the All-Army team, which has won a national title in three of the past five years.

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



Courtesy photo

Kirkland team

The Redstone-Kirkland basketball team for ages 12-and-under finished its season at 11-1. "Great kids that played unselfishly, great assistant coaches, and great parents were the overall reason for our success," coach Ernest Kirkland said. Front from left are Julie Davis, Lavonta Jackson, Jonathan Willard, Malcom Spears, Roosevelt Thurman. In the back row are assistant coach Darrel Johnson, Keith Ricks, Andre Kirkland, Ernest Kirkland, Auther Johnson, Jasmine Jones and assistant coach Palmer Washington. Keith Williamson is not pictured.



Courtesy photo

Successful season

The Redstone-Knight basketball team for ages 12-and-under finished its season at 8-3. "That is remarkable considering that three of the players were first-year players," coach Greg Knight said. From left, in the front row, are Justin McArthur, Shawn Lewis, Benjamin Smith and Joshua Knight. In the back row are coach Knight, Bria Williams, Tiffany London, John Tidball and coach Michael Smith. Not shown is Leeanna Helmick.



Redstone Arsenal

10 Miler Team Try-Outs

TRY-OUT DATES: 6 & 13 May 2006
TIME: 0700

RACE DATE: 8 October 2006 (WASHINGTON DC (TDY))

TRYOUT LOCATION: PARKING LOT NEXT TO SPARKMAN FITNESS CENTER

TEAM COMPOSITION (PLANNED): 8 MILITARY, 4 CIVILIAN
(Active Duty, Reserve, Retired Military, Gov't Civilians and Contactors)

TRYOUT ROUTE: START AT SPARKMAN, RUN TO PATTON ROAD, SOUTH ON PATTON, PAST BUXTON RD, TO 2D MAGAZINE ROAD, AND RETURN.
START/FINISH & MILE MARKERS ARE MARKED ON ROAD.

POCS: CW5 HARRY HOBBS (Head Coach) (842-6864)
SKIP VAUGHN (876-1500), ALEXANDER STEEL (876-3867)

All interested Active Duty Military call CW5 Hobbs at 842-6864.



Updated training ranges within view

Line of sight technology speeds modernization

By **DEBRA VALINE**
Huntsville Engineering Center

As the Army incorporates new weapons systems into its inventory, training ranges must be updated to provide the best possible and most realistic training venues to support the Army's "train as we fight" philosophy.

On the larger more complex digital ranges, the footprint or "baseline to target box" can comprise up to 6,000 acres of land. More challenging, Soldiers are required to acquire, engage and hit stationary and moving targets at distances out to 2,400 meters in a time sequence/scored process.

"As engineers, we must ensure Soldiers can see or 'engage' specific targets at the required distances without visual obstructions (landforms and vegetation) in order to achieve the strict training standards within the allotted time," said Mark Fleming, program manager, Army Training Facilities Program Office at the Army Engineering and Support Center in Huntsville. "This is known as line-of-sight, a critical element in the design and construction of these large expansive range facilities."

Target matrixes are developed by Army trainers during the early design process to determine minimum target engagements to meet Army training standards. In the past, it would take a long time to develop a line-of-sight analysis for the range simply because it took four to five days to run the computer modeling program. The answer would come back as a yes the engagement could be engaged, or no it could not be seen from that position. If the answer was no, it was back to the drawing board for the range designers to reorient the firing positions and target objectives.



Army photo

LIKE THE REAL THING— Realistic training prepares Soldiers for future missions.

In some cases, this iterative process could take weeks of combined dedicated effort from the trainers and the engineers working closely together to obtain a satisfactory design solution.

Today, Huntsville Center's Range Center of Expertise is using a line-of-sight design analysis program developed by HNTB Corps of Kansas City, Mo., that runs much faster and incorporates the newest training requirements. Line of sight integrates planning, designing and building of larger, more complex ranges.

"Applying this tool saves time and reduces the cost of constructing military training ranges, reduces contact with unexploded ordnance, reduces environmental impact and optimizes training by making it more realistic," Fleming said.

In the past 16 years, Huntsville Center has helped with the construction of more than 600 ranges.

"We are using software that we are

leasing from HNTB. This software — True/Viz™ On Target — can run the a half million profiles in less than five minutes. This is the software we are using with the three test ranges we are working on," said Lary Quick, a technical manager in Huntsville Center's Engineering Directorate. The test ranges — scheduled for construction in 2008 — one each at Fort Riley, Kan., Fort Stewart, Ga., and Yakima Training Center, Wash. Each range will take about 18 months to build and then six months for instrumentation.

HNTB had written the existing software and, based on a strong partnership with the Huntsville Center, adapted it to fit Huntsville Center's needs. Not only does it provide the profile between firing position and targets, it incorporates all the training tasks in the various Army field manuals. It provides the combinations that will need to be used to get the training task accomplished by helping lay out

ranges that fit the requirements of the training tasks.

"We can run the analysis on existing ranges and tell them which ranges meet the training requirements," Quick said. "Because we can run the profiles so quickly, we can run the analysis over and over and change it a number of times to meet training requirements. It costs about \$30 million to build a new range. This brings down the cost to build the range by avoiding massive quantities of earthwork for one example."

Using this program, the range can be designed much faster than it could be using traditional design with computer aided drafting.

"We can cut design time," Quick said. Ranges get looked at for rebuilding on a cycle of every 10-15 years. There are always new training range requirements based on stationing of units, which changes with initiatives such as base realignment and closure and military transformation.

These ranges support training on tanks, Bradley Fighting Vehicles, Strykers, Humvees and Scout vehicles. The software has the capability to be used for small arms range development, but has not yet been used by Huntsville Center for that.

In the past six months, armor training requirements and standards have changed dramatically, Quick said. "We put in the new training requirements and standards. We now have the ability to go back to finished designs to ensure they meet current training requirements before the ranges are actually built."

"The objective of the prototype effort is to introduce a new engineering design process leveraging computer technology to provide our Soldiers with a higher quality, more flexible training venue," Fleming said. "The results will be apparent in approximately three years when these projects are turned over to conduct live-fire operations."

Things to do for Army Emergency Relief

Fund-raising campaign goes through May 15

Army Emergency Relief fund-raisers include the following:

- AER Online Auction, now through May 15, at www.aer-redstone.com. Brought to you by PEO Aviation. For information call Maj. Mathew McCauley 313-4260.

- Chick-fil-A on South Memorial Parkway is contributing 15 percent of its lunchtime revenue to AER every Thursday until May 15. Call Belinda Bailey 313-2257.

- The ASGE Directorate of Research Development and Engineering Center is selling Polo T-shirts and denims, along with caps and coffee mugs. The design is a full span eagle atop an American flag with the words "Redstone Arsenal" on top and "Soaring to New Heights" underneath. The shirts range in price from \$14 to \$30, caps \$12 and coffee mugs \$7. The design is a Team Redstone design. Orders will be placed weekly with a 1-2 week delivery time. For more information call Kay Patton 876-3525 or e-mail kay.patton@us.army.mil.

- G-8, Resource Management, is selling Avon Skin-So-Soft Bug Guard and insect repellent products through April 25. Call Dana Wilbanks 842-9238 and Larry Bowlin 842-7103.

- Advanced Science and Technology Directorate is taking orders for AER Dutch Gardens Bulbs through April 18. Call Linda Taylor 876-2883.

- Coupon books will be available for \$12 each through May 15. Call Cheryl Baker 842-8695, Ranny Vinson 842-6793 and Kim Sharp 876-8696. Brought to you by Integrated Materiel Management Center, ILS/Manprint Office.

- Flex Tickets to Theatre of Huntsville Performances, \$12 each. Each flex coupon is redeemable for a seat to any Theatre of Huntsville play. All money goes to AER. Available anytime from Pat Blackman 842-8101 or Nancy Morris 955-9613. Brought to you by IMMC, Maintenance Information Branch.

- Child ID/records kits and first aid kits, including a pet first aid kit, for sale April 17, April 25 and May 4 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the Sparkman Center, in front of the cafeteria. Brought to you by IMMC, Fleet Management Branch. Call Kathy Siebert 842-8614.

- Silent Auction – chocolate basket, today from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Sparkman Cafeteria hallway, and Thursday from 10:30-1 in the building 5300 hallway between 5301 and 5302. Auction ends at noon Friday. Hosted by IMMC, Metrics, Policy and Plans Office. Call Holly Blanton 876-2362.

- Patriotic Gear, today from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Sparkman Cafeteria hallway. Hosted by IMMC, National Maintenance Branch. Items available anytime from Sharon Sipp 876-1748.

- Domino's Pizza, Thursday from 11 a.m. until it's all gone at building 4488, front lobby. Hosted by the Garrison. Call Kim Wright 842-2565 and Tammy Bratton 842-6476.

- Sonic Discount Cards, Thursday from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. at building 5308 lobby. Hosted by G-8 (Resource Manage-



Photo by Skip Vaughn

BASKETS BENEFIT— Members of the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center are accepting bids for themed baskets as an AER fund-raiser. From left are Theresa Falcetano, Elisa Stucker, Brenda Jones, Debra Coffey and Andora Crawford. For information call Crawford 876-4609. The winners will be announced Thursday.

ment). Call Dana Wilbanks 842-9238.

- Fourth annual AER Charity Car "Show of Support," Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (rain date April 22). Veterans Memorial Museum in Huntsville, 2060A Airport Road. Hosted by Fox Army Health Center and Vets with Vettes & Corvette Owners. Call Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Perkins 955-8888, ext. 1146.

- Scented Candles, April 18 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Sparkman Cafeteria hallway. Sponsored by IMMC, Maintenance Directorate, OLR Branch. Call Teri Benson 842-7717.

- Ice Cream Social, April 18 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., building 5300 hallway between 5301 and 5302. Hosted by IMMC, Maintenance Directorate, OLR Branch. Call Amos Richardson 955-9395 and Danny Berger 955-6193.

- Patriotic Gear, April 19 and 26 from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Sparkman Cafeteria hallway. Hosted by IMMC, National Maintenance Branch. Items are available anytime from Sharon Sipp 876-1748.

- Fish-Fry, April 19 (rain date April 26) from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. in front of building 5303. Cost is \$8 and includes two catfish fillets, coleslaw, baked beans, hushpuppies or bread and drink. Hosted by the Acquisition Center. Call Regena Pippen 876-7347 or Deon Davis 876-8988.

- Grilled Luncheon, April 20 from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. at building 4488, next to the helicopters. Menu includes hamburger or two hotdogs, potato salad, baked beans, chips and drink, for \$6 per plate. Brought to you by RDEC, Aviation Engineering Directorate. Call Maureen DeLuca 313-9089.

- Homemade Chili and Bake Sale, April 20 from 11 a.m. until sold out, building 5300, first floor, between 5301 and 5302. Hosted by IMMC, Business Management Office. Call Scott Bryson 842-6677.

- Sonic discount cards, April 20 from 10:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. at Sparkman Cafeteria. Hosted by G-8 (Resource Management). Call Dana Wilbanks 842-9238.

- Krispy Kreme doughnut sale, April 24 from 6 a.m. until sold out at Sparkman Center building 5300 hallway between 5301 and 5302. Hosted by IMMC, Readiness Directorate. Call Eric Cowan 313-1572.

- Used Book Sale, April 24-28 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sparkman Center first floor, building 5300, corridor between 5303 and 5304. Hosted by IMMC. Donations of books, books-on-tape, CDs, DVDs, and videotapes are welcome through April 26. If you have items to donate, call Brian Barry 876-5743 to arrange delivery and pickup of those items.

- Bowling Tournament, April 27 at 1 p.m. at Redstone Lanes. Hosted by RDEC, Propulsion Division. Cost \$15 per person includes three games and shoe rental. To register call Maureen DeLuca 313-9089.

- Cinnamon roll sale, April 27 from 8 a.m. until sold out. Available at two locations: Sparkman Center, building 5300

hallway between 5301 and 5302, and also building 5302, second floor kitchen. Hosted by IMMC, Transportation Division and Supply Chain Execution Division. Call Aubrey Fencher 842-8485 and Austin Lundy 842-7853.

- Bake Sale, May 1 from 8 a.m. until it's all gone, corridor between buildings 5301 and 5302. Brought to you by G-8 (Resource Management). Call Dana Wilbanks 842-9238.

- Garrison AER Fund-raising Day and Chili Cookoff, May 3 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., building 4488. Call Cathy Hays 876-5041.

- "No-Tap" Bowling Tournament, May 4, noon to 3 p.m. at Redstone Lanes. Hosted by IMMC, Depot Maintenance Directorate. Tickets are \$10 and entitle you to three games. Call Don Slagle 876-3445, Lynn Moore 955-6001 and Sandra Swartz 842-6772.

- Barbecue Plate and Bake Sale, May 11 from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m., in front of building 5309. Hosted by IMMC, Lower Tier Sustainment Logistics Directorate. Call Roosevelt Pitts 313-1068, Dave Moudy 313-1069, Pam Reyer 313-1077 and Patricia Cox 842-7904.

- Scented Candles, May 11 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Sparkman Cafeteria hallway. Brought to you by IMMC, Maintenance Directorate, OLR Branch. Call Teri Benson 842-7717.

- Ice Cream Social, May 16 from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. or until sold out, corridor between buildings 5301 and 5302. Sundaes are \$3 each. Hosted by G-2, Intelligence and Security Directorate. Call Cherry Hovik 876-9484 and Susan Douglas 842-6795.

- Blue Star Golf Tournament, four person scramble, May 16 at Redstone. Registration includes green fees with cart, lunch buffet and team prizes. Hosted by the Acquisition Center. Call Colleen Rodriguez 876-8849.

- Golf Tournament, four person scramble, May 19 at Redstone. Registration deadline is May 15. Hosted by Integrated Materiel Management Center. Call Austin Watson 842-7844, Cletis Severs 876-0196, Jan Pickard 876-2569 and Kim Marr 955-7133.



Photo by Sheryl Scott-Astle

Children's month

The Month of the Military Child opens with a kickoff parade and ribbon cutting April 3 at the Child Development Center. Navy Lt. Cmdr. Phillip Paschel, who has two children at the center, was the master of ceremony. Garrison Command Sgt. Maj. Mark Gerecht addressed the attendees.

Sports & Recreation

Ten-miler tryouts

Tryouts for Redstone's team in the Army Ten-Miler are 7 a.m. May 6 and May 13 on a 10-mile course beginning and ending at Sparkman Fitness Center. There are openings for eight military and four civilian members. The Redstone community is invited to try out – including active duty and retired military, National Guard and Reserve, and government and contractor civilian employees. The 22nd annual Army Ten-Miler is Oct. 8 in Washington, D.C. For more information on the tryouts, call team head coach Chief Warrant Officer Harry Hobbs 842-6864, Skip Vaughn 876-1500 and Alexander Steel 876-3867. Interested military runners should call Hobbs so he can answer any questions they might have.

Racing car

The Tide/Downy Race Car exhibit will be at the Commissary April 20-21 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Youth fitness

Youth Sports is conducting a fitness program for ages 12-18 from now through May 17 at the Youth Center. The program includes strength training, cardiovascular conditioning, flexibility and education. It meets Monday and Wednesday from 4:30-5:30 p.m. each week. There is no program fee, but central registration fee of \$18 will apply, if not already enrolled at CYS Central Registration. For more information, call 313-3699.

Golf bus trip

The Civilian Welfare Fund Council is sponsoring a golf trip to the Dancing Rabbit Golf Course at the Pearl River Resort in Choctaw, Miss. This three-day trip will depart May 19 at around 6 a.m. and return May 21 about 8 p.m. There will be two 18-hole tournaments held on the two Dancing Rabbit courses (the Oaks and the Azaleas). The Callaway Handicap system will be used in each tournament to make the events competitive regardless of an individual's handicap. Cost for this trip is \$225 per person based upon double occupancy. Included in this rate is two nights stay at the Pearl River Resort, bus fare, green fees and shared cart for two rounds of golf, awards, and snacks and beverages on the bus. A non-golfing spouse fee is available at \$125. For reservations, e-mail Bob Olson at bob.olson@amrdec.army.mil. A \$125 per person deposit is due by Friday, and final payment will be due by May 12. Space is limited so make your reservation today.

Senior softball

The Huntsville Senior Softball league is seeking softball players who will be age 55 or older by Dec. 31. The slow-pitch league consists of players of all skills and abilities. For information call Ray Beverly 859-7419 or Fred Garcia 883-1135.

Bass tournament

The Army Aviation Association of America, Tennessee Valley Chapter, will hold its 2006 Spring Bass Tournament on April 22 at Spring Creek Marina. Entry fee is \$30 per boat for members, \$40 non-members. Registration deadline is Friday. Call Bob

Vlasics 881-4144, Tom Geoffroy 895-4162 and Matt Boenker 955-6420.

RDEC 5K run

The RAM Engineering and Test Division of the Engineering Directorate will hold the fifth annual RDEC 5K Run and Fun Walk to benefit the Army Emergency Relief fund May 17 at 9:30 a.m. at the physical training track off Corporal Road. Military, civilian, contract employees and their family members are welcome to participate. Registration deadline is today. The \$15 entry fee includes a blue T-shirt and race day snacks/water/Powerade and a \$5 coupon to Fleet Feet Sports. Call Mary Ann Brothers 876-1216, Wynema Wooten 842-2775 and Holly Rigdon 842-2764.

Stars baseball

Civilian Welfare Fund Council is sponsoring Team Redstone Night at Joe Davis Stadium on April 22. Cheer the Huntsville Stars as they battle the Mobile BayBears starting at 7:05 p.m. Be one of the first 2,000 people who enter the stadium and receive a free Stars/Team Redstone souvenir baseball cap. Free general admission tickets are located across the Arsenal, at the Sparkman Cafeteria, or from any CWF Council member. Each ticket will admit one person and may be upgraded for a \$5 credit per person on upper or lower box seats for this game only. There will be military displays in front of the stadium before the event.

Bicycle safety

Road I Course from the League of American Bicyclists is for all cyclists who wish to gain a full understanding of how to operate a bicycle in a variety of situations. It's recommended for all experience levels, and for adults and children above 14. The course is May 6 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Safety City, 2221 Drake Ave. The \$50 course fee is due at signup. Spring City Cycling Club members receive a \$5 discount; and AlaBike members receive a \$10 discount. Commuter Course from the League of American Bicyclists, recommended for adults, is May 15 from 7-10 p.m. at Safety City with a \$25 course fee. Registration forms can be found at www.bike-league.org/members/instructor/pdfs/Road%20I%20Registration%20Form.pdf.



Conferences & Meetings

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.



Courtesy photo

Best representative

Jonathan York, a logistics assistance representative for the Aviation and Missile Command, has been named the 2005 AMCOM LAR of the Year. The aviation LAR is assigned to Fort Campbell, Ky., and was among five nominees for the title. He now represents AMCOM in the Army Materiel Command 2005 Robertson J. Short LAR of the Year competition.

Logistics workshop

The Logistics Support Activity's Worldwide Logistics Training Workshop is April 24-28 at the Sparkman Center. This workshop offers an opportunity for attendees, from strategic through tactical levels, to receive instruction and obtain a wide range of information on logistics systems, programs and initiatives. The theme for this year's workshop is "Delivering ACTIONABLE Logistics Information to the Warfighter." Soldiers, civilians and contractors can register online by completing the 2006 WLTW Registration Form at <https://www.logsa.army.mil>. Registration will be open through Friday. Questions concerning the workshop can be e-mailed to wltw@logsa.army.mil.

Logistics society

The Logistics Data Standardization Seminar will be hosted by the Tennessee Valley Chapter of the International Society of Logistics on May 2-4 at the Officers and Civilians Club. This seminar is to provide life cycle logistics professionals with the latest information on emerging logistics data standardization concepts/changes and the latest supportability tools, tech-

niques and lessons learned in product data use. For more information, e-mail Randy Gibbs at randy.gibbs1@us.army.mil.

Acquisition community

The 2006 Acquisition Community Conference, hosted by the Defense Acquisition University and sponsored by the DAU Alumni Association, will explore the topic "Quadrennial Defense Review: Impact on DoD and Defense Industry." The conference will generate discussions on shared concerns and interests across the military-defense industry community regarding priorities specified in the defense review. The conference will be held April 18 at the DAU Campus, building 226 (Howell Auditorium), Fort Belvoir, Va. It will also be linked by video-teleconference to the DAU South Campus in Huntsville. Those interested in acquiring firsthand knowledge about the defense review and its impacts are encouraged to register for the conference online at www.dauaa.org, or dauaas@dau.mil for the Huntsville video-teleconference. The contact for satellite connections is Emma White in Huntsville 722-1079.

Civil War talk

"Collecting the Civil War," a talk about collecting and researching Civil War materiel, will be presented by Sid Lyons of the local Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table. The presentation is 6:30 p.m. Thursday at the Elks Club, 725 Franklin St., north entrance. The meeting is free. Chicken dinner is available at 5:30 p.m. for \$6.95. For information call 858-6191.

Communication society

Society for Technical Communication will have a luncheon meeting Thursday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the UAH University Center, room 126. Reservations are required for this Italian pasta bar buffet. Huntsville/North Alabama Chapter members and technical communication students are admitted free. Cost for others is \$10. For reservations, visit membership@stc-na.org.

Women accountants

American Society of Women Accountants meets April 18 at the Holiday Inn Select on Williams Avenue, Sun Room of Lofton's. Social starts at 5:30 p.m. with

See Announcements on page 27

dinner at 6 and the program at 6:30. Mary Guillory and Robert Half are to speak on Student Night. Cost is \$16.50 members, \$17.50 non-members and \$10 full-time undergraduate students. Reservations are due by noon Friday by calling 830-0377 or e-mailing royerfe@juno.com.

Security seminar

Lt. Gen. Larry Dodgen, commander of Space and Missile Defense Command, is scheduled keynote speaker for the seventh annual NCMS training seminar Thursday at the Von Braun Center. This one-day event, hosted by the Mid-South chapter of NCMS Inc., the Society of Industrial Security Professionals, will include an analysis of the Brian Regan espionage case and several programs by the Defense Security Service. More than 275 security professionals, risk managers, force protection specialists, government, military and industry personnel are expected to attend. Persons involved or interested in national security issues are invited. The \$80 registration fee includes a continental breakfast, lunch, access to the exhibit area, seminar materials and handouts, and several door prize drawings. Call Barbara Jacobs 704-9250 for registration information.

Officers association

The Huntsville Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America will hold its informal monthly breakfast April 22 at 8 a.m. at Victoria's Cafe, 7540 Memorial Parkway southwest. The chapter's monthly luncheon meeting is April 26 at 11 a.m. in the Officers and Civilians Club with scheduled speaker Capt. Robert Hawley,

post veterinarian. For more information, call retired Maj. Steve Crawley 883-2323.



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 information systems operators and 42A human resources specialists. For 25B, the unit will consider reclassification action to 25B if you can document with resume your Civilian Acquired Skills to include your education/experience in the following computer skills: data base management, programming, networking and telecommunications. Minimum of a secret clearance is required. And you must possess the personal qualifications to pass a SBI background investigation process to obtain a top secret clearance soon. Specialties 74C and 74F have merged into the 25B career group and convert to 25B as well. To schedule an interview, call Sgt. 1st Class Harold Cook 876-8710 or Chief Warrant Officer Robert Smith 955-9722.

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 acqui-

sition, 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. On a trial basis, the shop will take afternoon appointments from 1:30-2:30 Tuesdays and Thursdays. "Join us Saturday, May 6th for some great bargains from 10-2," a prepared release said. For more information, call 881-6992.

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

The Easter Sunrise Service will be held Sunday at 6:30 a.m. at Bicentennial Chapel. Weekly services at the 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.

Volunteer opportunities

There are many benefits to volunteering. One is to make a difference, and at Army Community Service you can do that by giving your time to help Soldiers, family members and retirees. But you can also help yourself by gaining skills and teamwork experience, boosting your self-confidence in the workplace, and gathering job experience to put in that otherwise blank spot on your resume. ACS has different programs that need volunteers as assistants. The hours and days are flexible and child care is free while you are volunteering. No experience necessary. Be a part of the ACS team. Call Phyllis Cox 876-5397.

See Announcements on page 28

Tax assistance center

The Redstone Arsenal Tax Assistance Center is accepting requests for tax appointments; call 842-1040. Federal and state returns are prepared and filed electronically for free. This service is for active duty and retired military and their family members. The center is open through April 15 from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday by appointment only. Walk-ins are accepted from 5-7 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

CFC applications

The Tennessee Valley Combined Federal Campaign is accepting applications from non-profit charitable human health and welfare organizations wanting to receive contributions. Under federal law, the applicant must be a 501 (c) (3) organization. The open period for accepting applications continues through Thursday. CFC manages the collection and disbursements of donations from military and federal employees in Cullman, Lawrence, Limestone, Madison, Marshall, Morgan counties, as well as Lincoln County, Tenn. For more information or to obtain an application, call Melinda Seigler, CFC director, at 536-0745, ext. 108 or the CFC office 876-9143. You may also download the application with instructions at <http://cfc.redstone.army.mil>.

Johnson High reunion

Plans are under way for Johnson High School's Class of 1976, 30-year reunion. The scheduled dates are June 30 to July 2. If you are interested in attending the class reunion, visit the web site <http://www.joj76.org> for more information.

AER book sale

The Command Analysis Directorate's annual book sale for Army Emergency Relief is April 24-28 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in Sparkman Center building 5300, on the first floor in the corridor between 5303 and 5304. Donations of books, books-on-tape, CDs, DVDs and videotapes are welcome through April 26. If you have items to donate, call Brian Barry 876-5743 to arrange delivery and pickup of those items.

Warrant officer scholarship

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter of the Warrant Officer Association will present its annual \$1,000 scholarship award for 2006. Applications will be accepted from the children (natural and adopted), dependent stepchildren under age 21 (seniors in high school or currently enrolled college freshmen), and spouses of members of the active, National Guard, Reserve, and retired military and DoD civilians/contractors in the Tennessee Val-

ley. Deadline to submit packet is May 1. To download a packet and application form, visit www.redstonewarrants.com.

Aviation scholarships

Tennessee Valley Chapter, Army Aviation Association of America awards scholarships and interest-free loans annually to members of AAAA and their spouses, unmarried siblings, unmarried children, and unmarried grandchildren of current and deceased members. In 2005, 17 Scholarships worth \$29,500 were awarded based on Tennessee Valley participation, affiliation and matching fund activity. May 1 is the deadline for 2006 scholarship applications. The member's effective date of AAAA membership must be on or before May 1, 2005 for 2006 applications unless the member is deceased. The one-year requirement for all uniformed active duty, Army Reserve and Army National Guard members is automatically waived. Some scholarships are specifically reserved for enlisted, warrant officer, company grade, and Army civilian members. The applicant must be attending an accredited college or university or selected for fall entry as an undergraduate or graduate. Applicants who will attend a service academy are ineligible for a grant or loan. No recipient can hold concurrent AAAA scholarships. For more information, see the AAAA web site <http://www.quad-a.org/>, Scholarship link, or call Tom Harrison, Tennessee Valley Chapter vice president for scholarships, 319-0100.

ROTC scholarships

Army Reserve Officer Training Corps is offering two-year scholarships to students desiring to become a commissioned officer in the Army Reserve. Students who are pursuing a baccalaureate degree who are entering their junior year of college, high school students who attend a military junior college and individuals pursuing a graduate degree may apply. Applicants must have two academic years of college remaining. Contact the 81st Regional Readiness Command's education services office for more information or to request an application at its toll-free number (877) 749-9063, ext. 1705, or EdServices81@usar.army.mil. Annotate ROTC on the subject line of e-mail to expedite services. Deadline for applications is April 24.

AER scholarships

Army Emergency Relief is offering education scholarships to spouses of Soldiers on active duty, and residing in the United States. Scholarships are also available for widows of Soldiers who have died while on active duty. Applications will be accept-

ed through May 22, and are available at www.aerhq.org or by calling Kristi Foster of Army Community Service 876-5397.

Test week 2006

The OSD Defense Test Resource Management Center, in cooperation with the International Test and Evaluation Association, announces Test Week 2006 will be held June 5-9 at the Von Braun Center. Keynote speakers, panel discussions, exhibit information and registration information can be found on the web site www.testweek.org. This conference is also listed in TIP, vendor: Westar Corporation. For information call Sherry Hilley 842-6715.

Short courses

In conjunction with Test Week, two short courses, "Practical Applications of M&S to Transformation" and "Interoperability Certification and Testing Process," will be taught June 5. Both courses are in TIP, vendor: Westar Corporation, or the registration information is on the web site www.testweek.org. For information call Sherry Hilley 842-6715.

Physical training test

Headquarters & Headquarters Company, Garrison will administer the Army Physical Fitness Test every Wednesday in April for all Soldiers assigned or attached to the Garrison. The APFT will begin at 6:30 a.m. each Wednesday. Note the change of the primary location for this event from the field adjacent to Tin City to HHC headquarters, building 3206 for push-up/sit-up events. This change of location is due to the chance of inclement weather. Special accommodations will be made for sections wanting to make this a morale-building event. Please call 1st Sgt. McIntyre 842-7091 or Mr. Gibson 876-7797 to verify that permanent/temporary profiles are on record at the unit. For all personnel that have temporary profiles which preclude them from taking the APFT, weigh-in will be conducted at 7:30 a.m. the day of the APFT.

Panoply volunteers

Huntsville Chapter of the American Society of Military Comptrollers' Community Projects Committee is recruiting volunteers to help with the Panoply Arts Festival April 28-30 at Big Spring Park. Most of the shifts are three hours or less. For more information or a volunteer form, call Eura Reaves 842-7093.

Festival participants

If you are interested in participating in the Asian Pacific American Festival as a performer or vendor May 24 at the Diane Campbell Recreation Center, call Gladys Lee 876-5844.

TOW system reunion

The TOW missile system has been in existence since the 1960s. The TOW Reunion is planned Sept. 8-9 for everyone who has contributed to the system through the years. A registration web site has been established at <http://towreunion.com/> or call Jack Conway 562-2132. The chairman of the reunion committee is George Williams, former program executive officer for tactical missiles and former TOW deputy project manager. Chuck Ruddy, of Raytheon marketing and business development, is co-chairman.

College fund gala

Oakwood College presents the 28th annual UNCF (United Negro College Fund) Gala, Thursday at 6:30 p.m. in the North Hall of the Von Braun Center. Theme for the occasion is "Living to Learn and to Serve." Featured speaker is Les Brown, nationally-recognized motivational speaker, author and entrepreneur. Musical entertainment will be provided by Oakwood's own Take 6, whose latest album "Feels Good" hit stores March 21. Tickets for the gala may be purchased from Oakwood College, 7000 Adventist Boulevard, East Hall or by calling 726-7584 or 726-7236. For more information, visit the Oakwood College UNCF web site located at www.oakwood.edu.

College registration

Calhoun Community College, Redstone Arsenal Extension, will hold summer registration April 19 through May 10. Classes begin May 23. For more information, call 876-7431 or visit www.calhoun.edu.

Holocaust remembrance

Team Redstone will hold its Holocaust Remembrance Observance on April 25 at 10 a.m. at the Richard C. Shelby Auditorium (MSIC building 4545). Everyone is invited. The scheduled speaker is Holocaust survivor Agi Geva, associated with the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. For more information, call Gladys Lee 876-5844. Off-post personnel can call Sarah Brazzel 313-0546.

Veterinary clinic

The Redstone Arsenal 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.

See Announcements on page 30

