

Redstone Rocket

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Around town

Welcome home for war fighters
Page 4



Training day



Warrant officers share lessons
Page 6

Looking back



Explorer launch 50 years later
Page 8

Getting technical

Apache helicopter gains visual aid
Page 10



Win or lose

Charlie rolls with defense
Page 17



Tree grows funds to help Soldiers

Trio's patriotic decorations earn first place in contest

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
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When three workers from the Program Executive Office for Aviation participated in the Hall of Trees decorating contest over the Christmas holidays at the Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center in Nashville, they could not have imagined the result.

The tree they decorated won first prize for most donations. Those contributions, along with proceeds from the tree's auction, went to Army Emergency Relief.

Jo-Ann Rice, Cathy Knipe and Linda McKinney presented a \$1,456 check to AER officer Kristi Foster on Thursday at Army Community Service.

"You guys did such a great job on that tree," Foster said as the women arrived for the presentation.

"Thank you," Knipe replied. "We enjoyed it."

They decorated their 7.5-foot tree in patriotic red, white and blue with the theme "Support Our Soldiers and Their Family." In this charity fund-raiser, Gaylord Opryland provided the Christmas trees which groups were invited to decorate. Visitors could then place donations for each charity in a box next to each tree. The Redstone trio's tree



Photo by Skip Vaughn

GIFT FROM TREE— With the \$1,456 check to Army Emergency Relief are, from left, Linda McKinney, Cathy Knipe, Jo-Ann Rice, AER officer Kristi Foster, AER campaign chairman Capt. Rob Dewberry and Maj. Kirk McCauley.

proved to be the favorite of the 21 trees in the hall from Nov. 22 to Dec. 22.

"It was the first time they've done it and they're going to do it again next year," Rice said of the Gaylord Opryland hotel. "And they asked us to come back and we said yes."

Rice is secretary to the project manager at Aviation Systems Project Office. Within that office, Knipe is an administrative assistant at joint cargo aircraft while McKinney is the business manager for aviation ground sup-

port equipment.

Joining them for the check presentation were Maj. Kirk McCauley, PEO Aviation's AER lead, and Capt. Rob Dewberry, chairman for the 2008 Army Emergency Relief campaign.

"This is the first presentation to AER this year," Foster said.

The annual fund-raising campaign is March 1 through May 30 with a kickoff March 3 at 1 p.m. at Heiser Hall.

Federal workers must follow rules for political activities

Hatch Act details do's and don'ts

WASHINGTON — As U.S. servicemembers and Defense Department civilians ponder candidates during the election season, they should realize there are limits placed upon their involvement in certain political activities.

Political-related "dos and don'ts" pertaining to military members of all service branches are proscribed within Defense Department Directive 1344.10, titled: Political Activities by Members of the Armed Forces on Active Duty.

The federal Hatch Act delin-

ing those working for the Defense Department, may or may not do in the political realm.

For example, servicemembers and government civilians may attend political events like meetings and rallies, but military members must only be spectators and not wear their uniforms. In addition, troops aren't permitted to make public political speeches, serve in any official capacity within political groups, or take part in partisan political campaigns or conventions.

A recent case reported in Army Times shows what can happen when people violate the rules.

Under Hatch Act rules, government civilians may be active in and speak before political gatherings or serve as officers of political parties or partisan groups. They're also allowed to manage political campaigns, distribute literature (except at work), write political articles, or serve as spokespersons for political parties or candidates.

Military members generally aren't allowed to campaign for political office. Civilians can campaign for office in non-partisan elections. Partisan political activity is defined as activity directed toward the success or failure of a political party or candidate for a partisan political office or partisan political group. Yet, basic rules apply to both

military members and government civilians. Neither can use their position in the military or the government to influence or interfere with elections. Servicemembers and federal civilians never can engage in political activity on the job, in a government vehicle, or while wearing an official uniform.

For example, servicemembers and government civilians are not to distribute political literature at work. This also applies to politically partisan electronic mail messages forwarded over the Internet.

Servicemembers and government civilians are encouraged to exercise their right to vote and

See Activities on page 6

An open lane random survey

Why's it important to vote?

By SKIP VAUGHN

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Laura Kesting
AMCOM G-8 (Resource Management)



"This is our country. Therefore it is the responsibility of all Americans to participate in the selection of those leaders that we may continue to be governed in a manner which is representative of us all."

Chief Warrant Officer 5
Anthony Caudle
PEO Missiles and Space
"It's the only way you can make a difference."



Cpl. Jared Stufflebeam
Marine Corps Detachment
"It's important because it'll change the future for everyone."

Carl Hill
Directorate of Emergency Services
"It's your constitutional right to guarantee your own government, and you can't guarantee it without voting."



Quote of the week

'Sometimes something worth doing is worth overdoing.'

— David Letterman
"CBS Late Show," 1994

Letter to the Editor

Union's update on personnel system

The question of the day (or last several days) has been "what's up with NSPS?" The short answer is that for all intensive purposes, NSPS as we knew it is gone – ancient history!

Now for a little better explanation of what we know in a non-technical answer. Under the National Security Personnel System, virtually all aspects of civil service would have changed. While I could go into detail on all of the areas that would have been impacted, I think that would only cause more confusion. Suffice it to say that the only areas that are likely to see any significant changes in the future are our pay system (going from GS to a new pay-band system) and performance management system (currently TAPES for most of us).

If/when the DoD decides to move bargaining unit employees under a new performance management system, that change will require DoD to meet and negotiate with the union(s). Since these two are joined at the hip so

to speak, how we bargain over the new performance management system will have a tremendous impact on our lives.

Currently, no proposals exist to bring us under a new system. Since virtually all of the law that governs NSPS has now changed, I am sure that DoD will have to revisit their internal policies and regulations governing these topics. With that said, I don't anticipate any changes to the working conditions for bargaining unit employees during 2008. If that is not the case, I will let you know.

In summary, for all of the employees covered in bargaining units, no changes are on the visible horizon. And, just like we have been operating for decades, if changes do present themselves, we will be able to negotiate virtually the same as we do today! More information will follow.

Don Eiermann
president, AFGE Local 1858

Tool available to predict program cost

We have all heard this story before: You wake up, grab your coffee, head out the door and crank up the "old reliable" and nothing happens. It won't start. This time it's the starter, so, you arrange to have it fixed. A few months later, it's the water pump, then the oil pressure sending unit, then the brakes. It's always something! You can talk about rising gas prices and the increased cost of buying a new vehicle, but one thing is for sure: The true cost of the vehicle you drive is a lot more than just the cost of gas and the purchase price. Operating, maintaining and repairing your vehicle over its lifetime could wind up costing you a small fortune.

Wouldn't it have been nice to know how much it would truly cost to own this vehicle? Would you have still purchased that beautiful SUV if you had known the cost of tires and insurance would add a substantial amount to that already substantial \$500 monthly payment? Would you have chosen a different, less expensive vehicle had you known the repair costs on your current vehicle were going to be terrible after just five years?

Fortunately, engineers and logisticians working in program managers

offices across the Department of Defense have a validated life cycle costing tool with the capability to determine just how much it will cost to field, operate and maintain their individual systems.

For the past 16 years, project managers in every branch of the armed services have turned to the Logistics Support Activity's Cost Analysis Strategy Assessment to perform engineering life cycle cost estimates. In addition to determining total ownership cost, CASA enables analysts to perform tradeoff, risk and readiness assessments. CASA's ease of use combined with its flexibility and accuracy have made it a favorite across DoD.

Imagine having your own little life cycle cost software which would allow you to enter a few details about your car and then find out how much it really cost to own it. You could make a much more informed decision about which vehicle to buy, or even when to let go of your current vehicle and buy yourself a new one. You could even evaluate what specific repairs should be done at your neighborhood garage or what repairs will require a trip to the dealership.

As a taxpayer, it's comforting to know that every year hundreds of contractors and government analysts are using CASA to help provide accurate cost projections using various simulations before making critical decisions for project managers. It's proof that the armed services are committed to providing the best equipment, training and resources to war fighters in the field at the best possible value.

In today's acquisition world, estimating total life cycle costs plays a pivotal role in the system planning process. Project managers are charged to support the global war on terror and humanitarian efforts abroad, all the while meeting stringent budget and scheduling requirements. Conducting a proper cost analysis before and after the acquisition of individual systems shows how project managers are taking fiscal responsibility for their programs by making every dollar count.

LOGSA's latest CASA 9.0 release addresses the challenge of removing the tedious data entry process while leveraging the experience, knowledge and expertise of seasoned cost analysts. Since many project managers

See Tool on page 3

Redstone Rocket

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Getting to know you

By SKIP VAUGHN
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Name: Shelley Feltmeyer

Job: Command management support and protocol officer, AMCOM

Where do you call home?
Cahokia, Ill.

What do you like about your job?

Oh, the people. I love working with my people. I love working with the customer. It's a challenge every day – new and different. It's not repetitive.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

Really I'm a homebody, so I don't do a whole lot. If I can't go to Disney World, you'll usually find me at home. Maybe my husband (Larry) and I will go to Rosie's Cantina. I spend time with my daughter (Stephanie Turner) and spend time with my son (Paul), who's in the Alabama National Guard. I do read a lot.



What are your goals?

My goal is to become a grandmom sometime soon – that's not up to me. I have a goal to continue to broaden the vision and mission of my organization and then ultimately move up prior to my retirement – and then go to work at Disney World (laugh).

What's your favorite type of music?

I love jazz.

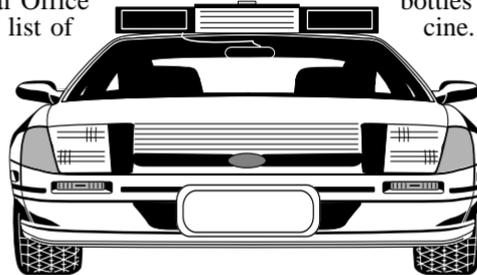
Crimes, accidents and other occurrences

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

Jan. 24: An individual was found to be operating his motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license while at the Visitor Center. He was issued a violation notice and released.

Jan. 25: An individual when stopped for speeding on Hale Road was found to be operating his vehicle with a suspended driver's license. He was issued a violation notice and released.

Jan. 25: Someone forcefully entered a Soldier's assigned wall locker and stole two



bottles of prescription medicine.

Jan. 30: An individual stopped at Gate 10 was found to be under a felony arrest warrant issued by the Madison Police Department. He was released to

Madison police.

Traffic accidents reported: seven without injuries, one with injuries.

Violation notices issued: 15 speeding, 2 suspended driver's license, 1 expired tags, 1 illegal turn, 1 failure to obey a traffic control device, 1 failure to judge clearance, 2 improper backing.

■ How to estimate cost for entire life of program

Tool

continued from page 2

and program executive offices have mature databases/sources to house the data for their platforms or projects, CASA 9.0 allows for a new opportunity to interface existing data with analytical tools in order to perform analysis on an unprecedented level.

Maybe you would like to know the true

cost of driving your "old reliable" back and forth to work every day or have a need to provide an accurate life cycle cost estimate for a particular system to your project manager. LOGSA's CASA 9.0 is the tool to use. CASA is freely available to all government agencies and also to contractors who are U.S. citizens. For more information or assistance, visit the CASA web site as follows <https://www.logsa.army.mil/lec/casa>. (LOGSA release)

Events honor returning Guard heroes

1169th, 128th recognized during Freedom Salutes

By KARI HAWKINS

Staff writer
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Lt. Col. Dwight Jett is a Decatur lawyer working to re-establish his practice after closing it for about a year. Command Sgt. Maj. Cliff Cowan of Boaz has spent the last few months undergoing treatments for kidney cancer. And Spc. Tamarra Pickett resumed classes at Troy State University in January.

For a National Guard Soldier, returning from deployment is about picking up the pieces of a life that was left behind. A lot can happen in the lives of family and friends during a yearlong absence – births, deaths, weddings, graduations and, when you are a parent, a lot of “firsts” in the lives of your children: a first tooth, the first day in kindergarten, a first date. A lot can also happen in a Guard Soldier’s full-time career – a job could be reorganized or refocused, a promotion could be waiting, co-workers and bosses may have changed.

Since the Soldiers of the 1169th Engineer Group and the 128th Military Police Company, both headquartered in Huntsville, returned from their tours of duty last fall, they have been focusing their efforts on involving themselves once again with their families, re-establishing friendships, getting back on the job and resuming their positions in their communities.

And that’s exactly where the focus should be right now for “freedom’s defenders,” said Maj. Gen. A.C. Blalock, the adjutant general of the Alabama Army National Guard, who spoke at Freedom Salute Ceremonies on Jan. 27 for the 87 Soldiers of the 1169th and the 149 Soldiers of the 128th. The ceremonies were held on the units’ first regular Guard weekend since their return from deployment.

“You placed the mission ahead of your family, friends and employers,” Blalock told the Soldiers.

“You were successful. Now, your mission is going to change. You are no longer in Iraq. Your mission now is to reintegrate into the great state of Alabama. Get your family back. Get your jobs back. That’s your mission and I know you’ll put it first.”

For lawyer Jett, of the 1169th, that means reconnecting with clients who had to go elsewhere for law services during his deployment. It also means getting up to speed with the changes on the Decatur school board, where he serves as an elected member.

“I had to shut my office down when I went to Iraq,” he said. “My wife, Karen, served in my school board position for me while I was gone. It’s hard to start over again. But people have been so positive and supportive of my service.”

Cowan, also of the 1169th, hasn’t gotten a chance to go back to work at Sanmina-SCI. Shortly after his return from Iraq, he began three months of

cancer treatments. Doctors have yet to release him from medical care.

“We found it when I got back,” Cowan said of the cancer, speaking in a whispery voice. “I had lost about 20 pounds in Iraq. When I got off the bus (on his return home) my wife said ‘You’re sick.’ I said ‘No, I’m not.’ But I was. The hardest part is behind me. Now, I look worse than I feel.”

Pickett, who was welcomed home by a whole army of family and friends when the 128th returned home, has easily returned to school. But she will always be close to the friends she made during the deployment, especially Spcs. Temekia Burnhart, Sheliah Rogers, Charra Johnson and Kristina Smith.

The Freedom Salute Campaign, which is a series of ceremonies held for returning National Guard Soldiers at armories and community centers across the nation, is one of the largest Army National Guard recognition endeavors in history, and is designed to publicly acknowledge Army Guard Soldiers and those who supported them during their deployment in the Global War on Terrorism. Since beginning in December 2003, the campaign has recognized more than 100,000 Soldiers, family members, friends, employers, centers of influence and others who have supported the Global War on Terrorism. The ceremonies on Jan. 27 – the 1169’s at their armory headquarters on Green Cove Road and



Photo by Kari Hawkins

THANK YOU— Col. Randal Martin, left, commander of the 1169th Engineer Group, thanks 1st Lt. Robert Schwarz for his service during the group’s Freedom Salute Ceremony on Jan. 27. During their one-year deployment, Soldiers of the 1169th completed more than 1,800 engineer missions; coordinated more than 1,200 route clearance missions from 6,100 kilometers of roads, resulting in the finding and detonating of more than 230 improvised explosive devices; and placed 51,000 meters of concrete barriers to create five safe neighborhoods and three safe markets, among other things. Behind Martin and Schwarz is Brig. Gen. Fred Johnson, commander of the Alabama Army National Guard’s 62nd Troop Command, Montgomery. Martin is employed at AMRDEC.

See **Heroes** on page 5

Heroes

continued from page 4

the 128's at the Von Braun Center — were a formal community-wide recognition of the Soldiers' sacrifices for their country.

Serving in Iraq, Blalock told the Soldiers, "is an extraordinarily difficult mission that challenged you each and every day, all day ... We've had almost 300 years of Americans answering the call. You're the latest group to do that. You have a lot to be proud of."

In returning to their civilian lives, Blalock urged the Soldiers to use resources that are available to them if they run into difficulty readjusting to their everyday routines.

"It's not going to be easy," he said. "But, don't quit on us now. Don't leave one of your comrades behind. Put your mission first. Families, look after your Soldier. The effects of war — it could be days, weeks, years before they manifest themselves. Look after each other."

No matter how difficult things get, Blalock hopes Soldiers remember the honor and respect they earned during their deployment.

"You all served. You all sacrificed. And for that we're thankful," Blalock told the Soldiers.

"Be proud of your service. Be proud of your uniform. It's Soldiers like you that make me proud to wear the uniform. You're the nation's heroes, the state's heroes and my heroes."

The 1169th Engineer Group deployed in September 2006 to Camp Liberty, Iraq, where they were the division engineer brigade for the Army's 4th Infantry Division and the 1st Cavalry Division. The group com-

pleted more than 1,800 engineer missions; coordinated more than 1,200 route clearance missions from 6,100 kilometers of roads, resulting in the finding and detonating of more than 230 improvised explosive devices; placed 51,000 meters of concrete barriers to create five safe neighborhoods and three safe markets; completed 220 design and quality assurance missions for projects in excess of \$74 million; oversaw construction of more than 50 combat outposts and joint security stations; and conducted more than 90 reconnaissance and engineering evaluation missions, said Col. Randal Martin, the 1169th's group commander.

When the 1169th first deployed to Iraq, Martin met with Maj. Gen. Joseph Fil, commanding general of the Multinational Division, Baghdad, and the 1st Cavalry Division.

"He told me the mission would determine the success or failure of the work the U.S. is doing in Iraq," Martin recalled. "And engineers are a key part of that mission."

"Since we've been there, Iraqi deaths have significantly reduced. Soldier deaths have significantly reduced. And the number of IEDs has significantly reduced. The Iraqis are beginning to set up a security force and, more importantly, they are starting to rebuild their infrastructure. We did help them turn the corner. We did our part in setting conditions for the Iraqi people to have freedom."

The 128th Military Police Company retrained for police operations in the year before they deployed. They were responsible for working with and training the Iraqi police and security forces. Several of the



Photo by Kari Hawkins

REVIEWING AWARDS— Spc. Tamarra Pickett goes through the awards and certificates she received during the 128th Military Police Company's Freedom Salute Ceremony on Jan. 27. With her is friend Spc. Temekia Burnhart. In the background is Cpl. Nathan Heartline.

149 Soldiers were injured during their mission and received the Purple Heart, including Sgt. Hubble Hainline and Spc. Jessica Newey, who are still being treated for their injuries.

"What a great bunch of heroes," Brig. Gen. Wendell McLain, commander of the 31st Chemical Brigade, said. "Our obligation was to see you trained for your deployment. Every one of you did an outstanding job, regardless of what your job was or what your rank was. Now, we have an even bigger obligation to make sure these Soldiers are cared for, and that they are OK mentally and physically."

The 128th faced many difficult challenges working with the Iraqi security forces, said Lt. Col. Charles Buxton, command-

er of the 203rd Military Police Battalion.

"It's difficult when you don't know if your Iraqi counterparts working beside you are good or bad, if they really care about doing their job, if they will even come to work," he said. "I hope you take what you've learned — both good and bad — and you share your knowledge so younger troops and those not deployed before can learn from you."

Soldiers of the two units who completed their first deployment were honored with several gifts during their ceremonies, including an encased flag, a commemorative coin, certificate, and lapel pins for the Soldier and their spouse. Soldiers deployed multiple times received a certificate for a Defender of Freedom



Photo by Kari Hawkins

TOKEN OF APPRECIATION— Jennifer Tresnan of Madison is happy to wear the lapel pin her husband Sgt. John Tresnan pins on her blouse collar. The pins — one for the Soldier and the other for their spouse — is a token of appreciation from the Alabama Army National Guard for the service both the Soldier and their spouse gave their country during the deployment of the 128th Military Police Company.

ring and their spouses received a Freedom Salute clock. Children received a Future Soldier foot locker kit that included games and other memorabilia.

At both ceremonies, Huntsville Mayor Loretta Spencer spoke about her concern for the Soldiers, a concern that the whole community shared with her.

"I hope you have felt the caring in this community for you," she said. "Our caring comes from the hearts of all the employees at city hall and from the hearts of this community."

Stating that Alabama is one of three states that have made the most sacrifices through the deployments of National Guard troops, Spencer encouraged the Soldiers to be a part of their communities.

"We're proud of you and what you've done," she said.

At the 128's Freedom Salute, the City of Huntsville and Guard Staff Sgt. Oneonta Tomlin were recognized as centers of influence and family readiness group coordinator Kelly Black received a special award.

The 1169 recognized the Redstone-Huntsville Chapter of the Association of the U.S. Army and David Carney, president of the North Alabama Veterans and Fraternal Organizations Coalition and a volunteer involved in Guard and military concerns, as centers of influence. It presented special awards to Spencer, and Steve Mozian and the Patriot Guard Riders. The 1169 also recognized the family of Sgt. 1st Class Larry "Denny" Wilbanks, who was killed in a car accident while on leave from duty in Iraq to attend his mother's funeral.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

OUTPOURING OF RESPECT— Officers of the Alabama Army National Guard are joined by local community officials to show their respect and appreciation to the 87 Soldiers of the 1169th Engineer Group during their Freedom Salute Ceremony on Jan. 27. During the group's one-year deployment to Iraq its Soldiers were involved in many engineering missions that were essential in the successful attempt to "turn the corner" in the war against terrorism and to help Iraqis rebuild their country's infrastructure.



Photo by Kari Hawkins

WHICH PIN IS WHICH?— Lt. Col. Dwight Jett, right, wears his glasses to look closely at the lapel pins he received — one for his lapel and one for his wife's — while Lt. Col. Michael McMunn jokes with him about the pins being too tiny to read. The pins were among several gifts presented to the Soldiers of the 1169th Engineer Group and the 128th Military Police Company during their Freedom Salute Ceremonies in appreciation for their service in the Global War on Terrorism. Pictured with Jett is his wife, Karen, and his niece, 8-year-old Emily.

Warrant officers get marching orders for future



Photo by Skip Vaughn

FEEDBACK— Col. Dan Mitchell, director of force development at the Combined Arms Support Command, Fort Lee, Va., listens to a question from Chief Warrant Officer 2 Maurice Conner, an electronic maintenance technician from Fort Bliss, Texas.

They share information during annual seminar

By SKIP VAUGHN
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Warrant officers from throughout the Army converged on Redstone last week for a common mission.

They wanted to learn all they could about their role in today's changing Army.

The third annual Warrant Officer Transformation Seminar, with the theme "Post Modular Force Vision," drew 120 attendees to the Ordnance Munitions and Electronics Maintenance School from Jan. 29-31. It's sponsored each year by the school's Warrant Officer Training Division.

"The main thing is to brief the field on future technology and doctrine which will affect their life today and into the future," Chief Warrant Officer 5 Orville Wilson, the division chief, said.

These warrant officers' specialties included ammunition and electronic/misile maintenance.

Col. Dan Mitchell, director of force development at the Combined Arms Support Command, Fort Lee, Va., was among the speakers at Heiser Hall.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

CENTER OF ATTENTION— Chief Warrant Officer 5 Charles Wigglesworth, deputy chief of the Warrant Officer Career Center at Fort Rucker, speaks on the topic "WOCC Way Ahead."

"They can share lessons learned," Mitchell said of the attendees. "And for me it's getting feedback from folks on what's working and what's not working in the force structure that we've designed for the modular force."

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Franklin Bradford, an electronic weapons systems technician at Rock Island Arsenal, Ill., said he found the seminar beneficial.

"It's very good to share the Army's current operation picture," Bradford said, "so that they will be aware when they go back to their units what the expectations are and what resources are available."

■ Hatch Act rules workers' political activities

Activities

continued from page 1

participate in the democratic process. But they should know there are rules in place that govern the extent of their involvement in political activities, officials said.

A recent case reported in *Army Times* shows what can happen when people violate the rules. A chain e-mail that makes false accusations about Democratic presidential candidate Barack Obama appears to have originated at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, and was sent out by civilians to potentially thousands of people who work for Army Medical Command, including Soldiers. In response, the Army sent a memorandum Jan. 16 through the Medical Information Technology Center to an unspecified number of Soldiers in Army Medical Command warning against using government computers to distribute the e-mail.

The e-mail accuses Obama of conceal-

ing that he is a radical Muslim, that he disrespects the American flag and that he was sworn into office with his hand on the Quran.

In fact, according to multiple biological web sites, Obama is a practicing Christian and used a Bible when he was sworn in as a senator from Illinois in 2005. His mother is Ann Dunham, a native of Kansas, who married a Muslim she divorced three years later.

Obama's mother remarried another Muslim, and the family moved to Jakarta, Indonesia. Obama met his biological father once.

The Army memorandum, which was first reported in the *Boston Globe*, stated that "Currently there is an e-mail floating around with the subject line: 'Who is Barack Obama.' Like virtually all chain e-mails, this one is false."

Editor's note: This article from the American Forces Press Service includes additional material reported by Army Times.

Garrison workers get leadership update

Colonel Olshefski conducts town hall

By SKIP VAUGHN
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Working for the Army is more than just a job.

That was part of the message from Garrison commander Col. John Olshefski during his town hall meeting Jan. 28 at Bob Jones Auditorium.

“The Army is a way of life. It’s not a job,” he told the Garrison workers.

He outlined the Garrison’s past, present and future during the meeting, which lasted more than an hour. He gave updates on base realignment and closure, construction and renovation, privatization of housing, and other areas.

“I’ve been truly, truly blessed,” Olshefski said of his two and a half years as Garrison commander.

He praised Darrell Brewer, the Garrison’s retiring deputy commander, and introduced Brewer’s successor, Curtis Clark.

The first Darrell Brewer Award for Leadership Excellence, which will be presented annually, was awarded to Joe L. Davis. Olshefski and Brewer made the presentation.

Davis, the director of public works, expressed his appreciation for “probably the biggest honor I’ve ever had.”

“Darrell has been very instrumental in helping me along in my career,” Davis said.

Among the Garrison workers in the audience was Lawrence C. Rogers, the training ammunition manager in the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security. He returned to Redstone as an Army civilian Jan. 22 after three years in the contractor world – he spent a year in Iraq, and the last four months he worked at LOGSA’s Packaging Storage and Containerization Center at Tobyhanna, Pa. The retired command sergeant major served as the Garrison sergeant major from 2000-04.

“It was quite engaging,” Rogers said of the town hall meeting. “It brought me back to reality to what all this is about.”

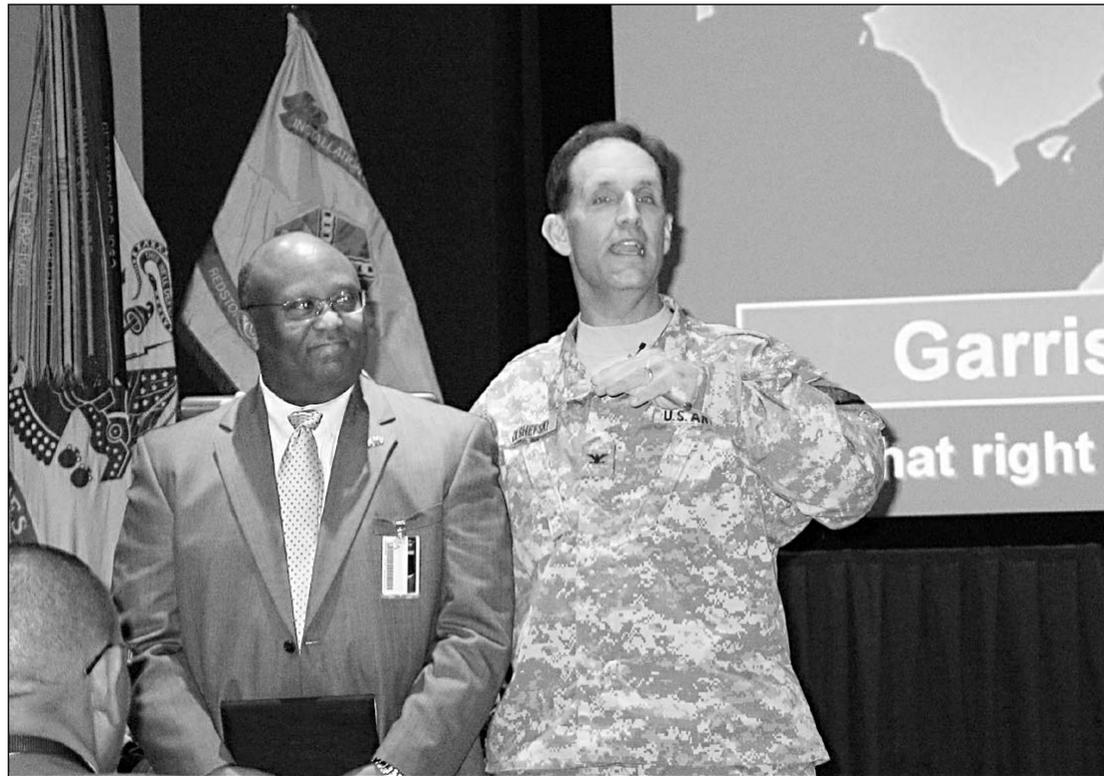


Photo by Skip Vaughn

INTRODUCTION— Garrison commander Col. John Olshefski introduces Curtis Clark, his new deputy commander, during the town hall meeting Jan. 28. Clark will succeed Darrell Brewer, who is retiring after 31 years and eight months.

Explorer launch opened doors to space

Army remembers 50th anniversary

By **KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY**
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When the Army calls, Redstone answers. The successful launch of Explorer I 50 years ago is a prime example, Redstone commander Maj. Gen. Jim Myles said at the Bob Jones Auditorium ceremony Jan. 31 commemorating the Explorer I launch.

“Our country needed a response (to Sputnik). When we took a look around the entire United States, who did they turn to? They turned to this group of people right here and said ‘Our nation needs you. Our nation needs you to respond and show them what we are about.’ They turned to the best people they could possibly find,” Myles said. “Redstone was called upon, and we didn’t miss. We hit the ball out of the park and haven’t seen it since.”

Billed as the free world’s first satellite, Explorer I was the American answer to the Russian launch of Sputnik and the birth of the U.S. space program. It was a program laden with a sense of urgency. The speed and precision with which the members of Team Redstone worked are still a wonder.

“It just doesn’t happen like that,” Myles said. “You usually have to have one or two test cycles before you get it right. ... But when we needed to get it right the first time, you got it



Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

RECOLLECTIONS— Mercury astronaut Scott Carpenter shares the stage with Explorer I during the anniversary program Thursday at Bob Jones Auditorium.

right the first time. It’s something that you very rarely see in the research and development area. ... You guys got it right in 90 days.”

While the team of German scientists, led by Dr. Wernher von Braun, is remembered for their technical expertise, Mercury astronaut Scott Carpenter also remembers their sense of humor. During his remarks, Carpenter drew laughs from the packed auditorium with anecdotes from his own experiences with von Braun. He also remembered the heavy weight of tension that rested on the shoulders of the American public once the

Russians launched their satellite first. The successful launch of Explorer I came at a time when America needed it most, Carpenter said. Coming at the height of the Cold War, it helped to allay fears among the public about the possible technical superiority of the Soviet bloc. Carpenter also hailed it as a confirmation of our way of life.

“It is an immutable law that men and women living in suppression and without freedom will never be a match nor can they equal the deeds accomplished by free men and women,” Carpenter said. “It’s a great vote of confidence for our

system of government and value of freedom.”

Fear of American inferiority is something we no longer have to live with, Myles said.

“We don’t know what that (feeling of inferiority) is about today. Our military community here has provided for our Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guard a capability that says we are the best in the world,” Myles said. “No one has better technology and I would submit to you that no one has better Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines and Coast Guard.”

The innovation and determination of the Army space program also laid the groundwork for future technologies, said Lt. Gen. Kevin Campbell, commander of the Space and Missile Defense Command. Those capabilities, built on the possibilities Explorer I opened, still benefit today’s Soldier.

“We rely on the devices and capabilities that are in space. They allow us to see and communicate across various regions. They tell us about the weather. These are critical capabilities,” Campbell said. “My message to you today is that you are saving lives. I don’t know if you envisioned that from that point forward, but that is what you have done with your great work.”

During the hour-long event, attendees were treated to a video montage of actual footage and interviews from those who lived the experience. It was a product of the hard work of AMCOM historian Mike Baker. After presenting Carpenter with a plaque honoring his achievements,

Myles called Baker forth to publicly acknowledge the work he had put into it.

“I love history, but not like this guy,” Myles said. “The reason why the video was put together, the reason why (Carpenter) is able to be here and we have the wonderful heroes from ABMA (Army Ballistic Missile Agency), is because of Mike Baker. He helped pull this thing together. I want to publicly acknowledge Mike Baker for what you have done personally to make this thing happen. It’s been a labor of love from the very beginning.”

During his remarks, Myles also recognized some special guests present in the audience.

“AMCOM is a successor of the Army Ballistic Missile Agency. That’s why I’m standing here in front of you today. We’re very fortunate to have 40 members and family members of those people who were here in the Army Ballistic Missile Agency. We’re standing on their shoulders today,” Myles said.

The hard work and dedication shown by the pioneers of the Army space program set a precedent Myles is happy to see Team Redstone continue.

“You are enabling our Soldiers to make things happen by creating in time frames that we’ve never heard of,” Myles said. “You have that spirit that started back here with this community to launch this (Explorer I) into space, to put Scott Carpenter into space, to train this guy (Col. Doug Wheelock) as an Army aviator and an Army astronaut to go into space – it’s the same spirit today.”

New archbishop pledges to find more chaplains

By ELIZABETH LORGE

Army News Service

WASHINGTON – During his installation Jan. 25, the new archbishop of the Military Services pledged to help fix a critical shortage of Catholic chaplains.

Archbishop Timothy Broglio was given his staff of office during an afternoon mass at the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception in the nation's capital.

The Archdiocese of the Military Services serves 375,000 military Catholics worldwide. It was created by Pope John Paul II in 1985 from the Military Vicarate, but has no seminary and no power to ordain men into the priesthood or as military chaplains. It relies on local bishops to lend priests to serve with the military, but the shortage of Catholic priests nationwide has resulted in an even-more-critical gap in the military.

In a press conference after the installation

mass, Broglio said his biggest goal is to get more chaplains, saying they are “desperately needed.”

About 300 active-duty Catholic chaplains military-wide minister to 1.4 million men and women worldwide and the military needs about 800 priests, according to Julia Rota, director of communications for the archdiocese.

Lt. Col. Gary Studniewski, a priest and the vocations and retention officer at the Army's Office of the Chief of Chaplains, said that the Army currently has 92 active-duty Catholic chaplains, and he expects to have 100 by the end of the summer. This small increase continues the upward trend of the past couple of years, but isn't enough as the Army needs at least a couple hundred.

He added that only 25 priests, both active duty and reserve component, are deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan, so some Soldiers may go weeks or even months without mass or sacraments.

Apache helicopter pilots get visual aid

Unmanned aircraft systems give targeting information

By KIM HENRY
For the Rocket

FORT RUCKER – Unmanned aircraft systems are giving Apache helicopter pilots a new war-fighting advantage.

Apache pilots can now receive video from unmanned systems for advance targeting information without entering harm's way. Demonstrated for the first

time Thursday at the Army Aviation Senior Leaders Conference, this effort is part of a rapid acquisition program to increase interoperability.

Live footage from a Shadow Unmanned Aircraft System was streamed to the cockpit of an Apache helicopter through Video from UAS for Interoperability Teaming Level II or VUIT-2.

"This is a big step for manned-unmanned teaming," said Col. Derek Paquette, Apache project manager. "Ultimately, VUIT-2 will increase the survivability and lethality of the Apache Long-

bow aircraft by providing aircrews and ground commanders increased situational awareness, decreased sensor to shooter timelines and increased reaction time."

To ensure interoperability, the Apache PM has teamed with the UAS project manager and developed this capability using the One System Remote Video Terminal. With the OSRV as the baseline interface, VUIT-2 is able to receive video from nearly all unmanned aircraft systems operating in Iraq and Afghanistan. It also provides joint interoperability by giving Apache Longbows the ability to receive Air Force and Navy video from platforms such as the F-15, F-16, F-18 using Sniper or Lightning Pods.

"The U.S. Army Soldier is adaptive and maximizes the tools he has such as UAS, but it is up to the Acquisition Corps to provide materiel solutions that make that job easier and more effective," Paquette said.

Currently, manned-unmanned teaming in Apaches relies on radio transmissions from the UAS operator to describe a target of interest. Now with the advent of VUIT-2, the Apache pilot can quickly visualize, assess the situation, and prepare for target engagements before he is even in weapons or Modernized-Target Acquisition Designator System range. UAS

video is displayed in the cockpit on the Apache Longbow's Multi-Purpose Display, and Apache Longbow sensor video can be transmitted to Soldiers on the ground.

"This gives the Apache helicopter a huge advantage and the ability to work well within the enemy's decision and reaction time," Paquette said. "Before the enemy even hears the Longbow, the crew has utilized VUIT-2 to gain situational awareness and identify the target. The crew then obtains clearance for fires and maneuvers to attack the target, all the while maintaining eyes on it using VUIT-2, and then launches a lethal barrage of weapons that will eliminate the target."

VUIT-2 capabilities will be fielded to theater by this summer and are approved for nine Longbow Apache battalions during fiscal years 2008 and '09.

From concept to fielding, VUIT-2 has been developed in less than a year. In addition to the Apache and UAS project offices, the Aviation Applied Technology Directorate, Aviation Engineering Directorate, Aviation Technical Test Center, Redstone Technical Test Center, Army Test and Evaluation Command, and industry partners have all played vital roles in rapidly transitioning this technology to the war fighter.



File photo

AERIAL EDGE— Apache Longbow, considered the world's premier attack helicopter, is armed with Hellfire missiles, 2.75 inch rockets and a 30mm cannon.



File photo

SHADOW KNOWS— The Shadow unmanned aircraft system is small, lightweight and can remain over an area of interest for up to three hours performing surveillance.

New electro-optics test facility on the move

Project nears halfway point

By **KELLEY LANE-SIVLEY**
Staff writer
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Government and contractor agencies at Redstone are working together to get the next generation of test equipment up and rolling. Team members in the Program Director System Sustainment Management are building a mobile Electro Optics Test Facility, while simultaneously upgrading to the V5 version.

The model they have in place is a stationary piece of equipment used to test components of the Kiowa and Apache helicopters. Each component of these highly technical machines is made up of hundreds of tiny parts.

“We test the test program sets which is the interconnecting device to diagnose tactical hardware, primarily helicopter hardware, down to a line replacement unit or a shop replacement unit,” Mike Bagby, EOTF technical lead, said. “The major difference with the V5 is the electro-optical module which allows the testing of electro-optical hardware from the Apache and Kiowa aircraft, like a laser range finder.”

Three months ago, work began to build a new EOTF at Redstone, rather than buying one. The decision was also made to upgrade to the newer V5 model as it is being built. Previous versions have all been stationary. Any teams needing to make use of its hardware have been forced to visit its building 3777 location. When the new V5 prototype is complete, mobility will no longer be an issue. It is being constructed as part of a van, allowing the walk-in closet sized facility to travel to the organizations and components that need it.

“We needed it where we could operate 24/7,” Bagby said. “It’s also mobile this way. You can take it from this building to 3460, which is our parent organization, and it can be utilized there as well.”



Photo by Kelley Lane-Sivley

TEAM EFFORT— Building the V5 Electro Optics Test Facility has required the joint efforts of government and contractor organizations. The team includes, from left, Art Shell, Kevin Parker, Cynethia Bailey, Ira Liburd, Lance Walker, Ernest Hazzard and Mike Bagby, kneeling.

Constructing, modifying and updating such a technical project is time consuming. Behind the panel fronts and openings lies a maze of wires and cables. Not

only did team members have to run the lines for the equipment, they also had to do a power conversion as well.

“The biggest hurdle, which

has already been accomplished, was to take an AMTSM 191 V2 van, which is a 400 cycle electronic powered van, and convert it – all the transformers, modify

the electrical distribution assembly within the shop – to run on 60 cycle which is what the V5 is powered by,” Bagby said. “They are also taking the consoles and the electronic analog and digital buckets and assembling it in this shop also.”

Bagby estimates that as it currently stands, the EOTF is about 40 percent complete. At this point, it should pick up speed. As with most projects, the hardest part was getting started.

“We would not have gotten this far without the combined efforts of the MOPP Shop personnel,” Kevin Parker, electronic technician with MJLM, said. “They have been there every step of the way lending a helping hand with any endeavor we needed assistance with.”

Since the project, the first of its kind, has not been finished total costs for the V5 prototype are still being calculated. Conservative estimates, however, put it well under the \$3 million price tag of the stationary V3 model, largely because of the reutilization of existing parts.

“One of the primary reasons this was initiated was production lead time. If you went back to the manufacturer asking for one, exponentially you’re talking much more money than what it would cost each for five. It’s cost prohibitive,” Bagby said.

Teamwork has been the most critical component. In addition to the people at the shop and with contractor partners, there are others lending a hand elsewhere.

“It has really been a concerted effort. The way everything has come together to make this a success is a team effort,” Kevin Williams, of AMRDEC, said. “We also have co-located personnel at 5400. Valerie Robinson has really helped. She has located and ordered the parts we need.”

Even though the completed V5 will not be deployed to the field, it will still serve Soldiers from here.

“It will not be tactically deployed, however it will be utilized by the contractor support element to replicate failures and to do test program set integration,” Bagby said.

Looking back during Black History Month

World War I veteran helped end segregation in Louisiana schools

February's Black History Month is an opportunity to share stories about people like Albert Cammon, who died in 1974.

An education pioneer in Louisiana, he was the grandfather of Brenda Joyce Cammon, a logistic management specialist for the Black Hawk helicopter T700 engine.

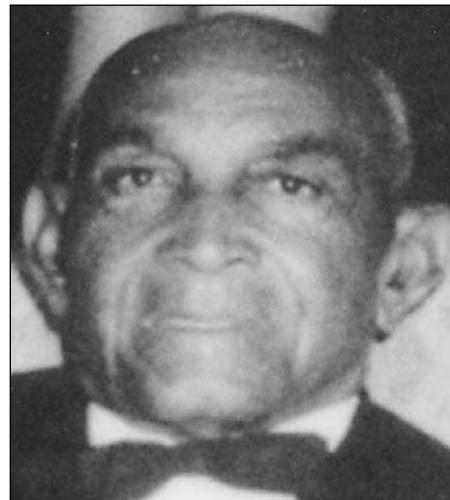
The St. Charles Parish (La.) School Board on June 10, 1992 renamed a public school in his honor, the Albert Cammon Middle School.

Cammon was born Aug. 18, 1891 in Lafourche Crossing, La. While a young man he moved to Hahnville, La. He joined the Army and fought in World War I. When he returned from the Army, he moved to Norco, La. He married Oletha Washington, and they had 10 children. He did not receive an education, so he wanted his children and all other children to have that opportunity.

During those days of segregated schools in Louisiana, many parish school boards did not provide high schools for the non-white students of their parishes. Such was the case at St. Charles Parish

during the 1940s. Cammon, who worked for the parish government as a ditch digger, was not pleased that his children could not attend a high school where he paid taxes and lived.

This motivated him to speak out for his children and all children of St. Charles Parish. He petitioned the St. Charles Parish School Board to provide a high school for black students. Black students who wanted to attend high school or high-



Albert Cammon

er had to travel outside the parish, to Jefferson or Orleans Parish.

In August 1945, Cammon gathered other black citizens of the parish, who were also unhappy that black students were discriminated against. They repeated their petition to the board, this time adding more signatures, but the board refused their request.

Cammon and his wife and other black residents of the parish sought the help of the New Orleans branch NAACP and attorney A.P. Tureaud. Tureaud and future U.S. Supreme Court Justice Thurgood

Marshall filed a federal suit on behalf of the Cammons and their daughter Addis Julia Cammon, and others similarly situated.

The lawsuit was victorious. In 1951, George W. Carver High School opened its doors in Hahnville for black students. One year later, Mary McLeod Bethune High School opened in Norco.

In 1969, a court ordered desegregation of all parish schools was carried out.

Editor's note: This article is based on published material provided by Brenda Joyce Cammon.

Army meeting 2008 recruiting goals

By C. TODD LOPEZ
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The Army is on track to meet its fiscal 2008 recruiting goal of 80,000 new active-duty Soldiers, said the U.S. Army Recruiting Command's top officer.

During testimony Jan. 31 before the Senate Armed Services Committee's military personnel subcommittee, Maj. Gen. Thomas Bostick, USAREC commander, told lawmakers his command is also working to help the Army Reserve meet its number.

"We are slightly behind established monthly objectives for the Army Reserve," he said. "But we are aggressively working with the Army leadership to develop the way ahead to achieve our Army Reserve mission for this year."

This year, the Army Reserve hopes to meet a recruiting goal of 26,500 new Soldiers.

Bostick said one of the difficulties in meeting recruiting goals is the "incredibly challenging" recruiting environment.

"Less than three out of 10 of our nation's youth are fully qual-

ified for service in the Army due to disqualifying medical conditions, criminal records, lack of education credentials or low aptitude test scores," he said.

"While public support for our Soldiers remains strong, we need more Americans to step forward and serve our nation — a nation at war."

— *Maj. Gen. Thomas Bostick*
USAREC commander

Likely exacerbating the issue: the war in Afghanistan and Iraq and its effect on "influencers" of potential recruits.

"Today, parents and influencers are less likely to encourage their family members and other young adults to join the military," the general said. "Propensity — the desire to enlist in the armed forces — is at its lowest point in two decades."

Nevertheless, last year some 170,000 Americans stepped forward to enlist in the Army, Army National Guard and Army Reserve. Additionally, the general said, Soldiers — even those

who are serving in or have served in combat — are re-enlisting.

"Our volunteer Soldiers are re-enlisting because they believe in their nation; they believe in their flag and they believe in each other," he told senators.

The Army has transformed the recruiting command, restructuring its 41 recruiting battalions and modifying their respective areas of responsibility. The restructuring reduced the size of larger battalions, while increasing the size of some of the smaller ones. This corrected imbalances in mission responsibilities, Bostick said.

The restructuring also included the formation of two brigades: a special missions brigade to handle administrative functions, logistics and special missions for subordinate brigades; and a medical brigade to provide command and control for the five medical recruiting battalions.

In the medical community, the Army is now ahead by 122 accessions this year compared to last year, the general said, indicating that changes made to the medical recruiting structure have been positive.

"This effort will ensure we have the right levels of emphasis and expertise working this critically important mission," he said. "This remains one of our most challenging areas, but we are making significant progress."

The Army follows Department of Defense guidelines about the quality of civilians that can be recruited into the Army. For instance, at least 90 percent of recruits must have a high school diploma, 60 percent of recruits must score in the I-III A category or better on the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery and no more than 4 percent can score category IV on the enlistment test.

In fiscal 2007, the Army fell short of the goal of ensuring that 90 percent of its recruits had a high school diploma. Instead, in fiscal 2007, only about 79 percent of recruits held diplomas. Nevertheless, the general said, the Army is recruiting quality Soldiers.

"All Soldiers in our Army are qualified to serve," he said. "And field commanders are very pleased with the men and women now serving in their formations

— some of whom are not high school diploma graduates or may have received a waiver to serve in our Army."

The general pointed out that about 90 percent of Soldiers in the Army have a high school diploma, compared to a national average of between 70 and 80 percent. In some areas, he said, that number is less than 50 percent.

Despite the difficult recruiting environment, Bostick told senators he believed Army recruiters could meet the challenge of maintaining a quality volunteer Army and asked lawmakers for their continued support.

"I am confident our recruiters will maximize the resources you have given them in order to achieve our mission," he said. "While public support for our Soldiers remains strong, we need more Americans to step forward and serve our nation — a nation at war. I thank you for your commitment to assist Army recruiting, and ask for your continued support to encourage Americans to answer our nation's call to duty."

Wolfpack turns up defensive pressure

Charlie Company
cruises to victory

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor
skip.vaughn@htimes.com

Charlie Company's basketball team really did look like a pack of wolves on the prowl.

Midway into the first half of its game against 375th Engineer Company, the Wolfpack shelved its zone defense and went man-to-man full court. The result was a flurry of 375th turnovers and a 31-13 halftime lead.

"It put pressure on their ball handlers and forced them to throw bad passes," Charlie player/coach Kevin Thomas said.

Charlie beat the 375th 47-21 on Jan. 28 at Pagano Gym.

"Our company motto is Wolfpack and that's how we

play – like a pack of wolves," Thomas said. "It had nothing to do with talent and skill; it's just pure intensity, esprit de corps and motivation."

Thomas gave credit to Charlie's first-year coach Ricardo Resto, who missed the game because of duty commitments.

"He's the one who got us together and actually made it possible for us to have a team," Thomas said. "He had to hold formation tonight and I just picked up where he left off."

Leland Ross scored a game-high 18 points, all in the first half. Thomas Suftin added 11 for Charlie, which improved to 2-0. The Wolfpack opened its season Jan. 24 with an impressive 61-56 win over 326th Chemical Company, the two-time defending post champion.

The 375th Engineer Company, which fell to 0-2, was led by player/coach Carlos Richardson with nine points.

"We turned the ball over too much," Richardson said. "We had way too many turnovers."

Games are Monday, Tuesday and Thursday nights at 6 and 7 at Pagano. The season ends March 4 and the postseason tournament is March 6-13.

Standings after last week's games had Headquarters & Alpha (3-0), Charlie (2-0), NCO Academy (2-0), Marines (1-1), HHC 59th (1-1), Bravo (0-2), 375th Engineers (0-2) and 326th Chemical (0-3).

Here are results from week two of the season:

- **Jan. 28** – Charlie def. 375th Engineers 47-21, and NCO Academy def. Bravo 46-42.

- **Jan. 29** – HHC 59th def. 326th Chemical 60-52, and Headquarters & Alpha def. Marines 67-41.

- **Jan. 31** – Headquarters & Alpha def. 326th Chemical 52-43.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

NO OPENINGS— 375th Engineers guard Donell Harris looks for room against the defense applied by Charlie guard James Susana in the first half of the Wolfpack's 47-21 win.



Van Schaack resigns as Stars GM

The Huntsville Stars announced Friday the resignation of the team's general manager Tom Van Schaack effective Feb. 8.

In a statement released by Van Schaack, he said: "This was a difficult decision for me to leave this organization at this time. The past year has been a difficult one for me both personally and professionally. The owners, including Miles (Prentice) and I all felt that it would be in the interest of everyone that I resign and allow the club the opportunity to move in a different direction. I want to thank all the Stars employees, both full and part timers for their hard work and dedication. It's been a pleasure to be able to serve the Huntsville baseball community as general man-

ager for the past three seasons and I wish everyone the best of luck."

Van Schaack, 44, took over as general manager just prior to the 2005 season. Before joining the Stars, Van Schaack, an Oswego, N.Y., native, served as GM of the Triple-A Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Red Barons of the International League. He began his baseball career in 1986 as assistant general manager of the Class A Burlington Indians. The 2007 season was his 22nd in professional baseball.

The Stars have gone to the Southern League's Championship Series in each of the last two seasons. No replacement for Van Schaack has been named by the Stars. (Huntsville Stars release)

Sgt. Stevens named 'America's Choice'

Utah National Guard Soldier was among top 16 finalists at Miss America pageant

By Staff Sgt. REBECCA DOUCETTE and ELIZABETH LORGE
Army News Service

LAS VEGAS, Nev. — Utah Army National Guard Sgt. Jill Stevens' quest to capture the crown as the 80th Miss America ended with a flurry of pushups on the stage of the nationally-televised pageant Jan. 26.

Stevens, Miss Utah, did find satisfaction from winning the "America's Choice" part of the competition which made her one of the 16 initial finalists. A panel of celebrity judges eliminated her and five others following the swimsuit competition, the first event during the final night of the pageant televised live on cable's TLC.

"I think it made a stronger statement than winning Miss America," Stevens said the following day. "To be America's Choice is an honor. To me, I won last night."

"The competition, where they get their top 15, happened during the week and I knew I was not getting top 15 because I did not perform up to my potential. I am my worst critic and when I prepare for something, I usually deliver. It was horrible and I knew my only chance was to hopefully get America's Choice. As they went through the top 15, I totally understood why I was not up there, but then when they announced me as top 16, America's Choice, it was surreal."

The Army's "G.I. Jill" immediately assumed the front leaning rest position and gave the audience at least 10 pushups after host Mark Steines announced that she would not be one of the 10 finalists.

"Wisconsin and I, the state next to me, decided let's do pushups and it was wonderful, and then I guess all the other girls dropped down too. I loved that. It made a statement. I think it added some depth. It was

fun," Stevens said.

Stevens was named the last of the initial 16 finalists because of the America's Choice competition that permitted the public to vote for a favorite contestant. It is believed that many National Guard Soldiers and other servicemembers voted for Stevens.

"It really was just such an honor. The military is one big family and to be supported by them was a huge help, as well as the many people around the nation that I've known or I didn't even know who heard my story and voted for me."

Stevens walked off the stage with a smile and a wave to join the other contestants who the judges had eliminated. She received a \$4,000 scholarship.

"I think I have shown that you can be a woman and a Soldier," said Stevens, an Army Guard medic who served in Afghanistan between November 2003 and April 2005. "You can be feminine, but you can also get down and dirty and have fun being a Soldier and serving your country."

According to pageant officials, Stevens was the first Miss America contestant since 1992 to be affiliated with the National Guard. Had she won, she would have become the first Miss America to have served in a combat zone.

"Being chosen as America's Choice shows that Jill is a special person and that America supports our Soldiers," said Brig. Gen. Jefferson Burton, the Utah Guard's newly-appointed assistant adjutant general-Army. "We are very proud of Jill. She has handled it all very well."

She plans to begin working as a nurse when her reign as Miss Utah ends in July.

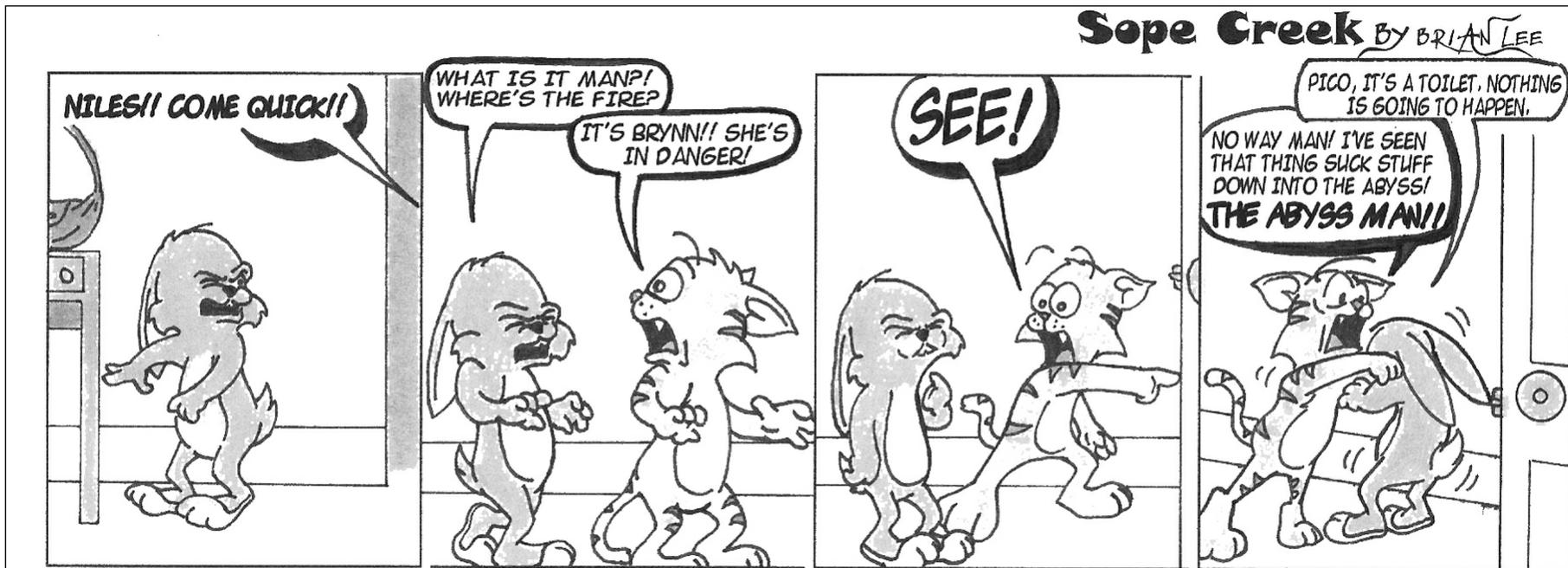
Kirsten Haglund, Miss Michigan, won the 2008 Miss America crown, which she will wear for the next year, and a \$50,000 college scholarship.

Editor's note: Staff Sgt. Rebecca Doucette works for the National Guard Bureau and Elizabeth Lorge is an Army News Service correspondent. Their reports were combined for this article.



Photo by Sgt. Maj. Phil Prater

WINNING SMILE— Sgt. Jill Stevens of the Utah National Guard, the reigning Miss Utah, was named America's Choice during the Miss America pageant Jan. 26. Servicemembers and other supporters nationwide had voted for her to be one of the top 16 finalists, but she did not win the overall competition.



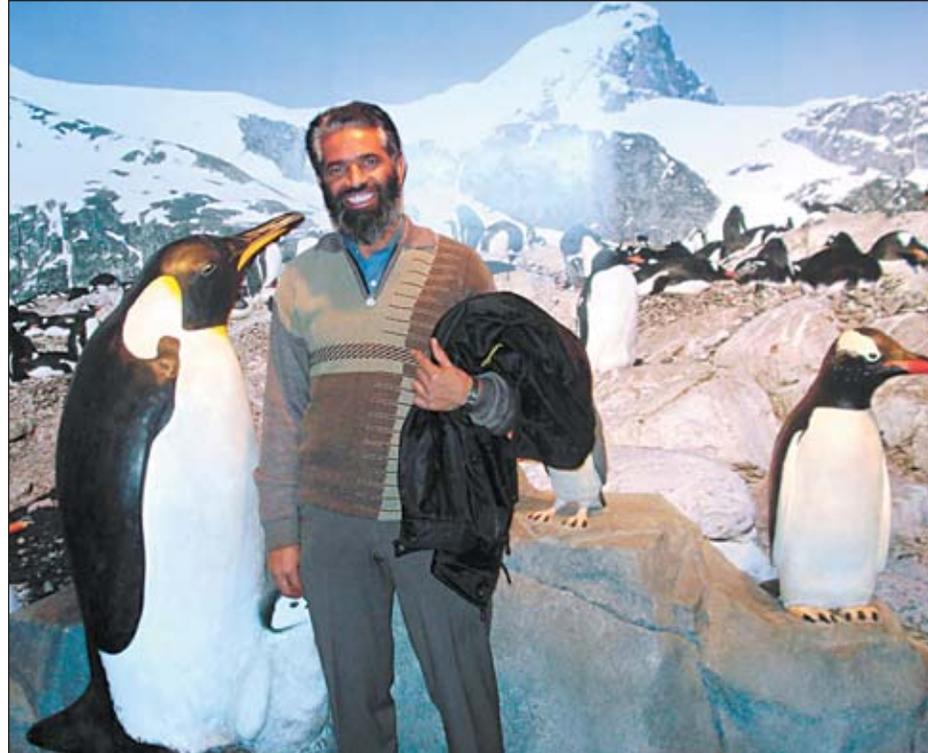
Units add 25 Soldiers in month

Twenty-five Soldiers arrived at Redstone units during January. The Garrison provided the following list, which may include some who were already here but were reassigned to other units:

- 1st Sgt. Jeff Thomas Lang, Aviation and Missile Command; Capt. Jason Knapp, Headquarters & Alpha Company; Capt. Allen Hughes, Headquarters & Alpha Company; Capt. John Wietrick, AMCOM; Capt. Alyson Mortier, AMCOM; Lt. Col. Robert Godlewski, AMCOM; Lt. Col. Gordon Graham, PEO STRI Orlando; Maj. Michael Rutkowski, PEO Aviation; Maj. Mickey Jett, HHC 59th; Maj. Michael McGurk, PEO STRI Orlando; Master Sgt. Barrett

Parris, Headquarters & Alpha Company; Master Sgt. Frank William Rose, Logistics Support Activity; Pfc. Princess Gibbs, HHC 59th;

- Pvt. Timothy Shipp, 0142 SCHHC; Sgt. 1st Class David Beier, NCO Academy; Sgt. 1st Class Anthony Keyes, HHC 59th; Sgt. 1st Class Michael Glancey, HHC 59th; Sgt. Robert Towler, Headquarters & Alpha Company; Sgt. Rosalyn Anderson, HHC 59th; Spc. Windell Allen, WT Co. A Warriors Redstone; Spc. Marketa Burnett, HHC 59th; Staff Sgt. Paula Black, HHC 59th; Staff Sgt. Daniel Brunick, HHC 59th; Staff Sgt. Lamar Hizer, HHC 59th; and Warrant Officer Fatima Earley, NCO Academy.



Courtesy photo

Sunny South?

International student Sgt. 1st Class Muhammad Shabbir from Pakistan experiences the penguin exhibit at the Tennessee Aquarium in Chattanooga. The International Military Student Office took 16 international students to visit Chattanooga on Jan. 26.

Redstone Arsenal Environmental Program Public Comment Period: February 3-March 3 Munitions Response Site Prioritization Protocol (MRSP)

Taking into consideration various factors relating to safety and environmental hazard potential, Redstone Arsenal intends to apply the Munitions Response Site Prioritization Protocol (MRSP) at the following potential Military Munitions Response Program sites: RSA-278 Highway 565 Area, MSFC-003 Inactive Old Bone Yard Disposal Site 1, MSFC-077 Inactive Open Burning/Disposal Pits, RSA-141 4.2 Inch Mortar Disposal Site, Bldg 4656, RSA-279 Smoke Grenade Area, Skunk Hollow Small Arms Range, Fuse Storage and Munitions Disposal Area, CWM Demilitarization and Disposal Area, Waste Disposal Pit, Inactive Old Bone Yard Disposal Site 2, and Former Mortar Test Site (NOT in Range). The Department of Defense (DoD) has conducted live-fire training and testing of weapon systems at active and former military installations throughout the United States to ensure force readiness and defend our nation. While the DoD has made great progress in addressing the potential hazards associated with former munitions-related activities, there remains work to be done. Through direction provided by Congress, the DoD has developed the MRSP which assigns priorities to defense sites containing unexploded ordnance, discarded military munitions or munitions constituents.

The Army and Redstone Arsenal are in the process of completing a Site Inspection for the sites listed above and shall evaluate sites by applying the MRSP. The MRSP evaluation criteria includes assessing types of munitions that may be potentially present, assessing land uses, determining ease of access to sites, and quantifying the number of people with access to sites. Information collected will be used to apply the MRSP and will be made available for public review at the Redstone Arsenal repository locations below in accordance with the 32 CFR Part 179 requirements.

- Redstone Arsenal Office of the Installation Restoration Branch, Environmental Management Division, Building 4488, Room 327L
- Triana Public Library (Triana Youth Center), 280 Zierdt Road, Triana, Alabama
- Huntsville/Madison County Public Library, Heritage Room, 915 Monroe Street, Huntsville, Alabama
- www.environmental.redstone.army.mil under Public Notices or via an email request to environmentaloffice@redstone.army.mil

If you have or would like additional information about these Munitions Response Sites or other potential munitions Response Sites associated with Redstone Arsenal, please contact:

Commander

U.S. Army Garrison Redstone
Attention: IMSE-RED-PA
Redstone Arsenal, Alabama 35898-5020
Telephone: (256) 876-4161; Fax: (256) 955-0133
E-mail: Redstone.PAO@conus.army.mil



Rocket Announcements



Sports & Recreation

Bicycle benefit

Break out the bicycle and helmet and start training now for the American Diabetes Association's first Tour de Cure event in Huntsville. Bikers of all skill levels and from all over the country are invited to sign up now for the May 17 ride that will tour southeast Huntsville. Individual riders and independent and corporate teams are invited to join the fight against diabetes by logging onto www.tour.diabetes.org and signing up for the Tour de Cure event. The registration fee is \$20. For more information about Huntsville's inaugural Tour de Cure ride for the American Diabetes Association, call Doris Lewis 539-4404 or log onto www.tour.diabetes.org.

Golf tournament

A.W. Watkins Scholarship Foundation will sponsor a Golf Tournament in April at Lagoon Park in Montgomery. For more information, e-mail dremy944@aol.com.

Girls basketball

Alabama Elite Girl's Club basketball try-outs are Sunday at the Monrovia Community Center. Here's the schedule for each age group: 9U (girls born on or after July 1, 1997) and 10U (girls born on or after July 1, 1996) try out from 2-3 p.m.; and 11U (girls born on or after July 1, 1995) compete from 3-4 p.m. For information e-mail Qwann Wood at aaelite@gmail.com.

Couples tournament

Join the Links at Redstone for its Valentine's Day Couples Golf Tournament on Feb. 17 at noon. The cost is \$20 per person. There will be refreshments and door prizes. For more information, call 883-7977.

Fitness instruction

A fitness class "Aerobithon" is Feb. 16 from 9 a.m. to noon at Pagano Gym. "Join MWR Sports & Fitness for three hours of non-stop fun while exercising," a prepared release said. "Instruction will be in step, toning, butts and guts, stretching and more." For more information, call 313-1201 or 842-2574.

Golf league

The OMMCS Golf League will have its 2008 season meeting Feb. 14 at 4:30 p.m. at the Redstone Golf Course Clubhouse. "It appears that at least two or three of the 20 league teams will not field a team for the 2008 season," a prepared release said. "We are looking for teams to fill the void left in our league, as well as individual golfers to participate with some of our teams that have lost a player or two." The league will play April 1 through the first week in September. A team entry fee of \$110, charged to all teams, is used to pay to winning teams for the first and second parts of the season, as well as individual and team wins each week. For more information call Dean Anderson home 852-3531, cell 797-3531, or Dave Parker 313-4196.

Skating fund-raiser

The Dixie Derby Girls roller derby team will do a skating benefit for the American Heart Association from 7-9 p.m. Feb. 11 at Roller Time in Huntsville. The roller derby girls will be strapping on their skates and doing as many laps as we can for the association. You're invited to attend and choose a skater and pledge per lap she skates, or make a cash donation. Anyone who pledges per lap or makes a cash donation of \$20 or more can skate with and/or hang with the derby girls that night. Donations will be gladly accepted at the door. Fifty percent of all contributions will go the American Heart Association. For more information, visit www.dixiederbygirls.com.

Redstone flotilla

Redstone Flotilla 2406 of the Coast Guard Auxiliary will conduct a boating safety class on Thursday nights from Feb. 14 through March 27 at Stilwell Hall, building 3305, room 215 on Zeus Drive. Classes are 6:30-8:30 p.m. A \$25 fee covers the cost of materials. Successful completion exempts students from taking the state boat operator's examination and may save you up to 15 percent on boat insurance. For more information, call Tom Kunhart 830-6621.

Bible studies

The Protestant Women of the Chapel invites you to study God's word each Thursday at 9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. or 6:30 p.m. at building 3466 on Snooper Road. This is the temporary location because of Bicentennial Chapel's major renovation. Free childwatch is available at the Child Development Center on a first-come, first-served basis. For more information, call Erica Hobbs 325-3152 or Sharon Olshefski 489-0404. "Bible studies this semester are: Covenant by Kay Arthur and Parables of Jesus, both taught in the morning session; A Heart Like His by Beth Moore, taught at the noon session for the working sisters; Revelation by John MacArthur, taught at the 6:30 p.m. session," a prepared release said.

Toastmasters

Anyone interested in improving their speaking ability is invited to attend the Lunar Nooners Toastmasters Club, which meets Tuesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the building 4610 cafeteria. For more information, call Ellen Jones 544-6616.

Federal employees

The National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association will meet Feb. 9 at the Senior Center on Drake Avenue. Refreshments start at 9:30 a.m. and the program at 10. Pat Pope and Kathy

Helicopter society

The Redstone Chapter of the American Helicopter Society is holding a Specialists' Meeting on Condition Based Maintenance from Feb. 12-13 at the Von Braun Center South Hall. Expert engineers from all over the globe are meeting to advance and report on what it takes to get CBM implemented in Army aviation. The meeting is 1-5:30 p.m. Feb. 12 and 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Feb. 13. Cost is \$300 for AHS members, \$365 for non-members and \$50 for students. For more information, call Ed Martin 313-9174.

Security professionals

NCMS Mid-South Chapter luncheon is Feb. 14 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the Holiday Inn by Madison Square Mall. The speaker is Rodney Morgan, a certified GSA container inspector. Lunch is \$16. To register, e-mail PMalone@mil-tec.com by Feb. 12.

Chapter luncheon

The Rocket City Chapter of ITEA will hold a luncheon meeting Feb. 21 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Scientific Research Corporation, 103 Quality Circle, Suite 220. A complimentary lunch will be offered to the membership and non-members. Dr. John Foulkes, director of Test Resource Management Center, OSD, is the speaker. RSVP to James Knoch 876-2550.

Civil War discussion

Tennessee Valley Civil War Round Table will meet Thursday at 6:30 p.m. at the Elks Lodge, 725 Franklin St. "Patriotism Tested: The Civil War Tribulations of Union General John A. Logan and Confederate Colonel William Oats" will be presented by Morris Penny, an award-winning author on the Civil War. Visitors are welcome. Chicken dinner buffet available at 5:30 for \$6.95. Call 858-6191 for more information.

Computer users

Create music CDs using Microsoft's free Windows Media Player, as demonstrated by Kevin Wangbickler, at the Huntsville PC User Group's Special Interest Group meeting at 9:15 a.m. Saturday at the Huntsville-Madison County Senior Center, 2200 Drake Ave. Wangbickler is the past HPCUG president and a longtime computer user. At 10:45 the advanced features of Excel (Microsoft's spreadsheet program) for incorporating graphs, charts, pivot tables and relative strength comparisons will be discussed by Pat Layky, the HPCUG secretary. Visitors are welcome. For more information, call 534-4324.

Test/evaluation papers

Test Week 2008 — "Test & Evaluation for the Future: What Lies 10-15 Years Ahead?," scheduled June 2-5 at the Von

Braun Center — announces its call for technical papers from the acquisition, S&T and T&E communities (industry, government and academia). Deadline for submission is March 1. Guidance and instructions may be found on www.test-week.org or by e-mailing Sherry Hilley at sherry.hilley@us.army.mil.

Resource managers

The American Society of Military Comptrollers, Redstone/Huntsville Chapter's monthly luncheon meeting is Feb. 14 at 11:30 a.m. at Trinity United Methodist Church, Personal Growth Center. This month's luncheon will be a fashion show from Steinmart featuring ASMC members as models. For ticket information, call Marlene Clemons 313-2378 or Lisa Lowry 876-7086.

Space history

HAL5 (local chapter of the National Space Society) presents a free public lecture "You Are There — From Early Rocket History Through 50 Years in Space" by David Christensen, consultant and former von Braun team member, on Thursday at 7 p.m. at the Huntsville-Madison County Public Library, 915 Monroe St. A social will follow. For more information, call Ronnie Lajoie 509-3833.

Rocket Announcements

University women

American Association of University Women will present the Legislative Committee's "A Thick Book," a 45-minute movie about Alabama's Constitution and need for constitutional reform, on March 4 at the Bevill Center, UAH, 550 Sparkman Drive. This is open to the public. Meet and greet begins at 5:30 p.m., dinner (\$19) at 6 and the program at 6:30. Seats are available for non-diners. Reservations should be made by Feb. 28 for both diners and non-diners with Lois Gruenel 880-8643.

Aviation symposium

The Army Aviation Association of America and the Tennessee Valley Chapter will host the 34th annual Joseph P. Cribbins Aviation Product Symposium Feb. 13-14 at the Von Braun Center. The symposium stimulates dialogue among industry executives, senior government officials and military leaders concerning support to the aviation war-fighter. Guest speakers will include Lt. Gen. James Thurman, Army deputy chief of staff for operations and plans; Maj. Gen. James Simmons, most recently the deputy commanding general for Multinational Corps Iraq; Maj. Gen. Jim Myles, commander of AMCOM; and Paul Bogosian, program executive officer for aviation. For more information, visit the Aviation Product Symposium web site www.cribbinsaps.com.

New American farm

Registrations are now being accepted for SARE's 20th anniversary New American Farm Conference to be held March 25-27 at the Westin Crown Center in Kansas City, Mo. For a full schedule of events, visit www.sare.org/2008conference.

Emerging technology

The Tennessee Valley Emerging Technology Conference will be held March 26-28 at the Richard C. Shelby Center for Missile Intelligence Auditorium. For more information, visit the conference web site <http://smapcenter.uah.edu/ETC08/>.



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

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 Master Sgt. Harold Cook 319-8456 or Warrant Officer David Ricketts 955-4026.

Civilian deployment

Civilian employees are needed to support Aviation and Missile Command missions overseas. Deployment opportunities exist in Southwest Asia in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom. Skill sets needed include acquisition, maintenance, supply, quality assurance, engineers, operations officers, logistics and automation, among others. Volunteers must be currently employed by AMCOM. Contractors cannot be considered to fill these positions. Civilians interested in deploying should notify their supervisor and call Eddie Allen 876-4106 or Carl Washington 876-2082. Contractors and other interested people can access www.cpol.army.mil for openings and opportunities for overseas employment.

Surplus sales

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

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.

Motorcycle safety

To permanently register a motorcycle on any DoD installation, the Defense Department requires all motorcyclists to complete a Motorcycle Safety Foundation



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Spinal screening

Gwen Phillips, right, of the Cruise Missile Defense Systems Project Office listens to Michelle Mendes of Health First Chiropractic during the Health and Wellness Fair held Friday in the Bob Jones Auditorium lobby. Mendes is a chiropractic assistant for Dr. Michael Freundt. The fair was sponsored by Fox Army Health Center's Preventive Medicine Clinic as part of February's American Heart Month.

training course. The one-day course is offered free to anyone authorized access to Redstone. For information call Keith Coates of Garrison Safety Office 876-3383. The instructor is Ralph Harris at 93hdstc@bellsouth.net.

Green to gold

The Alabama A&M Army ROTC program, which includes University of Alabama-Huntsville and Athens State University, is seeking proficient enlisted Soldiers interested in completing an undergraduate or graduate degree and commissioning as Army officers upon receiving the appropriate degree. If you are an enlisted Soldier who has served at least two years on active duty, this is an opportunity for you to advance. Enroll in Army ROTC on campus by using opportunities provided through the Green to Gold Program. For more information or to schedule an interview, call Maj. Annette Woods 372-4023 or

See Announcements on page 23

Lateral entry

Opportunities to excel under a competitive learning environment are available to qualified prior service individuals who wish to train and commission as second lieutenants in the Army. These opportunities are also available to you if you are an enlisted member of the National Guard or Reserve and wish to become an officer. The Lateral Entry Program will allow you to enroll — as a junior, senior or graduate student with four semesters of coursework remaining before graduation — as a cadet in the ROTC Program at Alabama A&M University. For more information or to schedule an interview, call Maj. Annette Woods 372-4023.

Reserve cadets

Join the Army Reserve and enroll in your college ROTC program simultaneously through the Simultaneous Membership Program. Earn anywhere from \$470 to \$1,400 a month as a SMP cadet. As a member of the Army Reserve SMP Cadet Program, you are non-deployable, you have an opportunity to pursue the degree of your choice and you can assure yourself of a future as a commissioned officer in the Active Army or the Army Reserve. For more information, call your local Army Reserve recruiter 922-1422.

Officer candidates

The Huntsville Recruiting Company is seeking proficient individuals interested

in commissioning as Army officers upon completion of Officer Candidate School. If you are a college graduate with a four-year college degree or higher from an accredited institution of postsecondary education (college seniors may apply), this is an opportunity for you to become an officer. Graduates of OCS are commissioned as second lieutenants. Commissions are available in the Active Army and the Army Reserve. For more information, or to schedule an interview, call Capt. Cyrus Russ 539-6511.

Pilots wanted

The Huntsville Recruiting Company is seeking qualified applicants to apply for Warrant Officer Flight Training School. Applicants must have a high school diploma and be from age 18-33. Age waivers will be considered. Experience in flight training or related disciplines are encouraged, but not a requirement. Applicants will be required to take the Alternate Flight Aptitude Selection Test and score 90 or higher. For more information, or to schedule an interview, call Capt. Cyrus Russ 539-6511.

Tax center

The 2007-08 Redstone Arsenal Tax Assistance Center is open through April 15, Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The center is in building 3489 at the corner of Ajax Road and Zeus Road. All active duty servicemembers, retirees, their dependents, as well as Reserve and National Guard servicemembers on military orders for 30 or more days and their

dependents, are eligible for e-filing of federal and state tax returns. There is no charge for this service. For an appointment, call 842-1040.

AER scholarships

Army Emergency Relief offers “free” money for education. The 2008-09 Army Emergency Relief Scholarship Program instructions and timelines for applying for the scholarships are now available on the AER web site, www.aerhq.org. Assistance is available for spouses and children of active duty and retired Soldiers. All applications and supporting documents must be sent to AER headquarters and postmarked by March 1. For more information, call AER officer Kristi Foster 876-5397.

Community assistance

The Officer and Civilian Women’s Club distributes money to nonprofit groups each year, and is now accepting applications for grants. To receive a copy of the application, write to RSAOCWC, Attention: Demy Robley, Community Assistance Chair, P.O. Box 8113, Redstone Arsenal, AL 35808. Forms are also available in the OCWC Southern Exposure Newsletter and at Army Community Service, building 3338 on Redeye Road. All requests must conform to the OCWC Community Assistance Request Form. Deadline for the request is Feb. 28.

Rocket Announcements

Requests postmarked or received after the deadline will not be considered. For more information, call Demy Robley 882-6064.

Scholarship program

The American Society of Military Comp-trollers offers a scholarship program for ASMC members and their families. Applicants must be current ASMC members or high school seniors, undergraduates, or those working on graduate programs (immediately related to an ASMC member). They must have maintained a 3.0 gpa. Applications are due by Feb. 28. For more information all Judy Smith, chairperson of the Scholarship Committee, 313-2379.

Warrant officer scholarship

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter of the Warrant Officer Association will present its annual \$1,000 scholarship award for 2008. 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 Valley area. Deadline to submit packet is March 1. To download a packet and application form, go to www.redstonewarrants.com.

See Announcements on page 24

Training seminar

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter of International Association of Administrative Professionals will hold its 13th annual seminar, "Pathways to Professional Excellence," Feb. 11 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Laurel Long, director of human resource services at University of Alabama-Huntsville, is keynote speaker. Afternoon workshop topics include Home Computer Maintenance, Leading in Teamwork, Leading Through Education, How Leaders Should Apply Robert's Rules, and Leading in Continuous Improvement. A luncheon, continental breakfast and snacks along with Office Expo booths will be provided to attendees. The course is in TIPS by the course number PPE; and the vendor name is IAAP. Tuition fees are \$125 and student rates are \$50. You do not have to be in the administrative career field to attend the training event. For more information or to register, call Susan Douglas 955-9530.

Job shadowing

Junior Achievement of Northern Alabama is looking for businesses to host job positions for Groundhog Job Shadow Day. This one-day event allows 10th, 11th and 12th grade students to explore careers by "shadowing" someone who works in a career field of their interest. Job Shadow is sponsored locally by Wachovia and coordinated by JANA and the

Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce. Nationally, Groundhog Job Shadow Day takes place in February throughout the country. Locally, students will be able to select one day from Feb. 14, 21 or 28. For more information, call 533-4661.

Financial seminar

American Society of Military Comptrollers is holding a Mini-PDI (financial training seminar) on March 5-6 at the Trinity United Methodist Church Auditorium on Airport Road. Pick a day; the same session will be presented each day with lunch included. Speakers include Dr. Gary Huckabee, Kathryn Sommerkamp and Mike Ryan. Cost is \$100 for ASMC members and \$125 for non-members. Registration is 7:30-8:25 a.m., and the seminar is 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. TIP number is F82MPDI. Call in reservation with IMPAC credit card information to Cody Swinford 876-3363, Dana Wilbanks 876-4283, Debbie O'Neal 876-2671, Sandy Balog 842-8012, Frieda Waits 450-2169 and Theresa McBride 842-9272.

Singing valentine

"Say 'I love you' with a singing valentine's and leave your sweetheart speechless," a prepared release said. "Your thoughtfulness will be remembered long after the song ends." A barbershop quartet will deliver a song, a rose and a card to



Courtesy photo

Time for retirees

Karen Bandera, chief of recruiting for the Missile Defense Agency, briefs area federal retirees at the January meeting of the Athens Chapter for the National Active and Retired Federal Employees Association. The group meets monthly at the Alabama Veterans' Museum in Athens.

that special someone. Call the Rocket City Chorus 604-0972 or visit the web site www.rocketcitychorus.org.

Fondue for two

Treat your valentine to a night out at the Officers and Civilians Club. The club is having a formal four-course fondue dinner and dance Feb. 14 at 6 p.m. There will be entertainment provided by the Usual Suspects. The cost is \$35 per person for this event, open to the entire community. For more information or tickets, call 830-2582.

Prayer breakfast

The National Prayer Breakfast is Feb. 12 at 6:30 a.m. at the Officers and Civilians Club. Pro football hall of famer John Hannah is the speaker. Music will be provided by the Huntsville Police Department's "Blue Note Five." Miss Alabama 2007 Jamie Langley will appear. For tickets call Chaplain Parker or Spc. Kausek 842-2965 or 842-2964. The suggested donation is \$3.

ID card section

Military Personnel Office ID Card Section will be closed Feb. 27-29 for upgrade of 7.2 DEERS/RAPIDS computers. Effective March 1, the requirements for issuing ID cards will change. Individuals must present two forms of identification before being issued an ID card. For more information, call 842-2413.

Veteran recruitment

The military-to-civilian recruiting firm RecruitMilitary will present a free hiring event for job seekers who have military backgrounds Feb. 12 from 11 a.m. until 3 p.m. at Regions Park in Hoover. More than 20 veteran-friendly organizations will conduct one-on-one interviews with the job seekers. For more information on the RecruitMilitary Career Fair call Drew Myers, president of RecruitMilitary, 800-226-0841. To register as a job seeker, visit www.recruitmilitary.com.

Management institute

The Project Management Institute North Alabama Chapter will hold its PMI-NAC annual Free Evening Event on Thursday from 5:30-8 p.m. at Gemini Room, Odyssey II Building, SAIC Huntsville Campus, 6723 Odyssey Drive. Featured speaker is retired Lt. Gen. Dan Petrosky, president of WestWind Technologies. Register at www.northalabapmi.org/ChapterMeetings.htm.

Woodpecker benefit

The Ivory-billed Woodpecker Foundation is holding its second annual fund-raising gala, "Save the Ivory-bill!" on Feb. 23 at 6 p.m. at the Jaycees Facility. The keynote speaker is professor Dr. Jerome Jackson, ornithologist and author of "In Search of the Ivory-billed Woodpecker." Tickets are \$35 and include dinner and the program. For tickets call Bobby Harrison 337-3368 day or 776-2003 evening.

Health center holiday

Fox Army Health Center will be closed Monday, Feb. 18 in observance of President's Day. On Tuesday, Feb. 19 the Primary Care Clinic will be open from 7:30-11:30 a.m. for scheduled appointments. All other clinics and services will be closed the entire day for a training holiday. The health center is closed on Saturday,

Sunday, Thursday afternoons and all federal holidays. Advice Nurses are available during non-duty hours at 955-8888 or 1-800-223-9531 to provide care advice. Fox does not have an emergency room or emergency medical services. In an emergency, dial 911.

Business opportunity

On behalf of the Redstone Arsenal, Alabama SKIES Unlimited Program, the Army NAF Contracting Office, Southeast Region is soliciting for a concessionaire contractor to provide vocal instruction. If you are interested in an opportunity to provide these services on a concessionaire contract basis, call Anthea L. Medley (270) 798-6623 by Feb. 13.

Orchestra benefit

The Huntsville Youth Orchestra invites everyone to join it at Cheeburger Cheeburger restaurants on Feb. 28. "While you enjoy your meal, you can also enjoy beautiful live music performed by some of our area's most talented young musicians," a prepared release said. "At various times throughout the day and evening, small groups and soloists from the Youth Orchestra will be playing some of their favorite pieces. On Feb. 28, Cheeburger Cheeburger is generously donating a portion of all profits from both of their restaurants to support the Youth Orchestra. So come on out, have some great food, listen to some great music, and support a great cause!" Cheeburger Cheeburger has two locations: 5000 Whitesburg Drive in south Huntsville (at the corner of Airport and Whitesburg), and 7 Town Center Drive in northwest Huntsville (just north of 72, in Providence Town Center).

Garden plots

All personnel desiring garden plots for the 2008 planting season must contact the MWR Membership Sales Office in building 1500, on Weeden Mountain Road, during the scheduled request periods. Priorities have been established to better serve all interested personnel. The procedures for requesting and assigning garden plots are as follows: First priority – Active duty military must request their plots during Feb. 15 through March 1; second priority – retired military must request their plots March 2-16; and third priority – DoD civilians must make their request March 17-31. If there are plots left over, assignments will be on a first come, first serve basis. The 2008 planting season will

be utilized at Vincent Drive. There are 54 garden plots available at Vincent. Due to the limited number of plots available, only one plot will be assigned per family until March 31. For more information, call Stephanie Stone or Chris Carter 830-9175.

Symphony concert

The Huntsville Symphony Orchestra will present a family concert "Carnival of the Animals" at 1:30 p.m. March 1 at the Von Braun Center Concert Hall. Carlos Miguel Prieto is the conductor; and Susanna Phillips is the soprano.

Quarterly retirements

The Quarterly Retirement Ceremony is March 20 at 4 p.m. at Heiser Hall. All military personnel who are scheduled to retire within the next 3-6 months are required to participate in one of the quarterly retirement ceremonies. Please call Sgt. 1st Class Steven Walker 876-7969 or Sgt. Kenneth Speegle 842-2625 to make arrangements for participation. Deadline for signing up to participate is Feb. 29. A retirement ceremony is also scheduled June 19.

Filmmaking class

Award-winning filmmaker John Sayles will present a Master Class on Filmmaking at 1 p.m. Friday at the Flying Monkey Arts Center at Lowe Mill, 2211 Seminole Drive. This event is sponsored by the Alabama Filmmakers Co-op. Sayles will highlight his latest film experience, "Honeydripper," starring Danny Glover. The Master Class is free and open to the public. However, location will limit number of people, so arrive early. Teachers may download study guides from www.honeydripperhuntsville.com to use for Black History Month and to encourage their students to see the film after its release.

Red Cross blood drives

This month's blood drives include the following: Feb. 7 from 7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at building 6263. Feb. 8 from 7-noon at building 5681 and 7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at building 4545. Feb. 14 from 7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Sparkman Center and 7-12:30 at building 5400. Feb. 15 from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at NASA building 4316 and 7-noon at Corps of Engineers. Feb. 21 from 7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at SMDC building 5220. Feb. 22 from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Missile Defense Agency at 106 Wynn Drive.

ARMY POSITION VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS REDSTONE ARSENAL AND HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA AREA

February 6, 2008 The Redstone Rocket

ANNOUNCEMENTS	POSITION TITLE	CLOSING	ORGANIZATION	PAY PLAN	GRADE	POT	PAY RANGE	WHO CAN APPLY?															
		DATE	LOCATION	& SERIES	LEVEL	GRD	(FROM - TO)	A	B	C	D	E	F	H	I	R	T	V	U				
THE FOLLOWING ARMY ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.CPOL.ARMY.MIL																							
SCBK08346674	Supv IT Spec (PLCPLN)	6-Feb-08	LOGSA	YC-2210	2	2	76,056 - 107,848	X															
SCBK08519656	Budget Analyst	6-Feb-08	SMDC	GS-0560	13	13	78,390 - 101,913						X						X				
SCBK08482903	Pjrt Dir	6-Feb-08	LOGSA	GS-0301	14	14	92,633 - 120,421	X															
SCBK08392661	Supv Prgm Mgr	7-Feb-08	Corps of Engrs, Huntsville	YC-0340	3	3	91,728 - 148,740	X															
SCBK08392661D	Supv Prgm Mgr	7-Feb-08	Corps of Engrs, Huntsville	YC-0340	3	3	91,728 - 148,740	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK08519640	Budget Analyst	7-Feb-08	SMDC	GS-0560	12	12	65,742 - 85,468				X								X				
SCBK08491026	Logistics Mgmt Spec	7-Feb-08	IMMC	GS-0346	12	12	65,921 - 85,701	X															
SCBK08480943	Logistics Mgmt Spec	7-Feb-08	IMMC	GS-0346	12	12	65,921 - 85,701	X	X										X				
SCBK07358970R	Logistics Mgmt Spec	8-Feb-08	AMCOM, LAISO	GS-0346	11	11	54,999 - 71,500	X															
SCBK08530800	Engrng Tech	8-Feb-08	AMCOM, TMDE ACTVTY	GS-0802	7	11	37,164 - 71,500	X						X		X	X		X				
WTST08444878	Security Spec	8-Feb-08	TSMO	GG-0080	12	12	65,921 - 85,701	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK08531304	Mgmt Asst (OA)	8-Feb-08	SMDC	GS-0344	6	7	33,442 - 48,308	X															
SCBK08457641	Mgmt Analyst	8-Feb-08	Acq Ctr	GS-0343	11	11	54,999 - 71,500	X	X														
SCBK08454745	Logistics Mgmt Spec	8-Feb-08	IMMC	GS-0346	13	13	78,390 - 101,913	X										X	X				
SCBK08533525R	Workforce Liaison Spec	8-Feb-08	SMDC	GS-0301	7	9	37,164 - 59,100	X															
WTST08449328	Security Asst	8-Feb-08	GARRISON	GG-0086	8	9	41,157 - 59,100	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK08176146R	Supv Civil Engr, Supv Elect Engr, Supv Mech Engr	11-Feb-08	Corps of Engrs, Huntsville	YF-0810,0850, 0830	2	2	65,278 - 126,442							X		X	X		X				
SCBK08454706	Logistics Mgmt Spec	11-Feb-08	IMMC	GS-0346	13	13	77,670 - 100,976	X										X	X				
SCBK08504155	Logistics Mgmt Spec	11-Feb-08	IMMC	GS-0346	13	13	78,390 - 101,913	X										X	X				
SCBK08456291	Logistics Mgmt Spec	11-Feb-08	IMMC	GS-0346	12	12	65,921 - 85,701	X															
SCBK08544424	Mgmt Analyst	11-Feb-08	SMDC	GS-0343	11	11	54,850 - 71,306				X								X				
SCBK08472070	Comp Engr	13-Feb-08	AMRDEC	DB-0854	3	3	65,921 - 101,913	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK08472070D	Comp Engr	13-Feb-08	AMRDEC	DB-0854	3	3	65,921 - 101,913	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK08467731	Configuration Mgmt Spec	13-Feb-08	AMRDEC	DE-0301	3	3	50,060 - 85,701	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK08467731D	Configuration Mgmt Spec	13-Feb-08	AMRDEC	DE-0301	3	3	50,060 - 85,701	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK08550810	Physicist (Metrology)	13-Feb-08	AMCOM, TMDE ACTVTY	GS-1310	13	13	78,390 - 101,913	X															
SCBK08547111	Mgmt Analyst	13-Feb-08	IMMC	GS-0343	7	11	37,164 - 69,667	X	X														
SCBK08506172	Supv Mgmt Analyst	13-Feb-08	Acq Supp Ctr	YC-0343	2	2	65,278 - 126,442	X	X														
SCBK08495697	Prgm Analyst	13-Feb-08	AMRDEC	DE-0343	3	3	50,060 - 85,701	X	X	X				X		X	X		X				
SCBK08495697D	Prgm Analyst	13-Feb-08	AMRDEC	DE-0343	3	3	50,060 - 85,701	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK08317163	Mechanical Engr	15-Feb-08	Corps of Engrs, Huntsville	YD-0830	2	2	45,014 - 101,912	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK08317163D	Mechanical Engr	15-Feb-08	Corps of Engrs, Huntsville	YD-0830	2	2	45,014 - 101,912	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK08480863	General Engr	15-Feb-08	AMCOM, G-4 (Command Internal Logistics)	GS-0801	13	13	78,390 - 101,913			X								X	X				
SCBK08480863D	General Engr	15-Feb-08	AMCOM, G-4 (Command Internal Logistics)	GS-0801	13	13	78,390 - 101,913	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK07543197	Oper Research Analyst	15-Feb-08	SMDC	GS-1515	12	13	65,921 - 101,913			X	X	X	X			X	X		X				
SCBK07543197D	Oper Research Analyst	15-Feb-08	SMDC	GS-1515	12	13	65,921 - 101,913	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK08428620	Supv Gen Engr	18-Feb-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	92,633 - 141,657	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK08428620D	Supv Gen Engr	18-Feb-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	92,633 - 141,657	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCNAFBK08005	Asst Golf Course Superintendent	21-Feb-08	Bus Oper Div	NF-1601	3	3	21,100 - 40,000	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK08485198	Comp Engr	25-Feb-08	AMRDEC	DB-0854	4	4	92,633 - 141,657	X						X		X	X		X				
SCBK08485198D	Comp Engr	25-Feb-08	AMRDEC	DB-0854	4	4	92,633 - 141,657	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK08307773	Civil Engr, Env Engr, Geologist	25-Feb-08	Corps of Engrs, Huntsville	YD-0810,0819, 1350	2	2	45,014 - 101,912			X	X					X	X		X				
SCBK08530876	General Engr (Metrology)	29-Feb-08	AMCOM, TMDE ACTVTY	GS-0801	14	14	92,633 - 120,421							X		X	X		X				
SCBK08534683	General Engr	29-Feb-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	92,633 - 141,657	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK08534683D	General Engr	29-Feb-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	92,633 - 141,657	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK08458418	Supv Gen Engr	1-Mar-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	92,633 - 141,657	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				
SCBK08458418D	Supv Gen Engr	1-Mar-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	92,633 - 141,657	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X				

THE FOLLOWING OPM/DEU ANNOUNCEMENTS CAN BE FOUND ON THE WEB AT WWW.USAJOB.SOPM.GOV

WTST08444878	Security Spec	8-Feb-08	TSMO	GG-0080	12	12	65,921 - 85,701	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
WTST08449328	Security Asst	8-Feb-08	GARRISON	GG-0086	8	9	41,157 - 59,100	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK08472070D	Comp Engr	13-Feb-08	AMRDEC	DB-0854	3	3	65,921 - 101,913	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK08467731D	Configuration Mgmt Spec	13-Feb-08	AMRDEC	DE-0301	3	3	50,060 - 85,701	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK08495697D	Prgm Analyst	13-Feb-08	AMRDEC	DE-0343	3	3	50,060 - 85,701	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07543197D	Oper Research Analyst	14-Feb-08	SMDC	GS-1515	12	13	65,921 - 101,913	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK08317163D	Mechanical Engr	15-Feb-08	Corps of Engrs, Huntsville	YD-0830	2	2	45,014 - 101,912	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK08480863D	General Engr	15-Feb-08	AMCOM, G-4 (Command Internal Logistics)	GS-0801	13	13	78,390 - 101,913	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07543197	Oper Research Analyst	15-Feb-08	SMDC	GS-1515	12	13	65,921 - 101,913			X	X	X	X			X	X		X
SCBK07543197D	Oper Research Analyst	15-Feb-08	SMDC	GS-1515	12	13	65,921 - 101,913	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK08428620D	Supv Gen Engr	18-Feb-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	92,633 - 141,657	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK08485198D	Comp Engr	25-Feb-08	AMRDEC	DB-0854	4	4	92,633 - 141,657	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK08534683D	General Engr	29-Feb-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	92,633 - 141,657	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK08458418D	Supv Gen Engr	1-Mar-08	AMRDEC	DB-0801	4	4	92,633 - 141,657	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
SCBK07347979D	Electronics Engr	30-Sep-08	AMRDEC	DB-0855	3	3	63,958 - 98,876	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

WHO CAN APPLY CODE DEFINITIONS (Note: Only U.S. citizens are eligible to apply for Army positions)

- A** - Army permanent competitive service employees and certain Army excepted service employees serviced by Redstone CPAC.
- B** - All Army permanent competitive service employees and certain Army excepted service employees (SF-50 documenting service required).
- C** - Compensable Disabled Veterans receiving 30% or more compensation from a military service or the VA (SF-15 and other documentation required).
- D** - All Department of Defense competitive service employees and certain DOD excepted service employees (SF-50 documenting service required)
- E** - Executive Order 12721 eligibles. (Former overseas family member employees who meet eligibility requirements)
- F** - All Federal Employees serving on a career or career-conditional appointment (SF-50 documenting service required)
- H** - Severely handicapped persons (Documentation from State Vocational Rehabilitation Service required)
- I** - Interagency Career Transition Assist Plan (ICTAP). (Non-DOD Federal employees who have been displaced by RIF.)
- R** - Reinstatement eligibles (former competitive service Federal employees who meet eligibility requirement.)
- T** - Transfer eligibles (non-Army Federal competitive service employees) (SF-50 documenting service required)
- V** - Certain veterans and prior military members who meet the eligibility criteria under VRA or VEOA programs (DD-214s or proof of service required).
- U** - All U.S. citizens

NOTE: If you are interested, carefully read the announcement for the official area of consideration, qualification requirements, and application procedures.

NOTE: The Nonappropriated Fund (NAF) Personnel Office accepts applications for various types of positions, i.e. Cashier, Food Service, Custodial, Bartender, etc. A complete listing of all available positions can be viewed on the web at www.redstonemwr.com or you may telephone 876-7772.

Resumes are now being accepted for AMC Fellows and Business Enterprise Solutions Trainee. Visit www.amccareers.com or www.cpol.army.mil, search for Vacancy Announcement Numbers: NEAEJ04710482 & NEAE04756647, for more information.