

Redstone Rocket

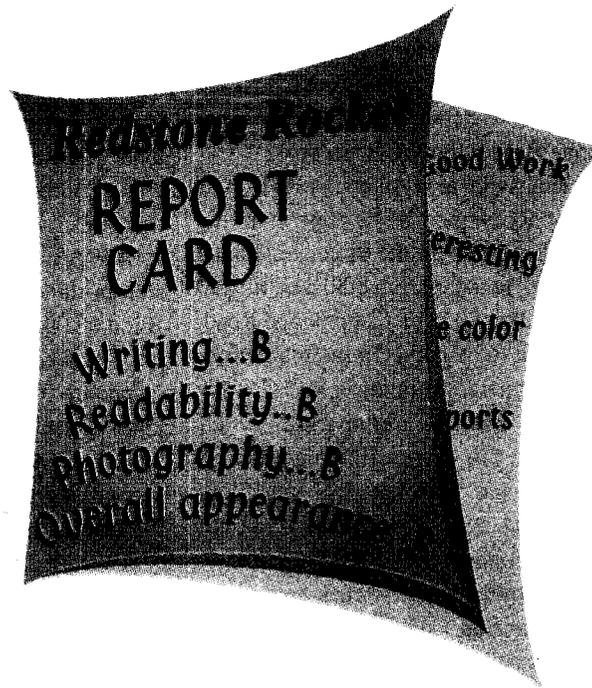
VOL. 48 No. 32

Published in the interest of personnel at Redstone Arsenal, AL

August 11, 1999

How you see us

Readers respond with their ratings for the Redstone Rocket



Overall you like us, but we could be more stimulating

By Skip Vaughn

What do you think of us?

Well, the readers of the Rocket got a chance to express their opinions about this newspaper in a survey conducted in June. Margaret Banish-Donaldson of the AMCOM Public Affairs Office provided the questions on the Intranet's Redstone Arsenal homepage. More than 450 readers responded.

Banish-Donaldson provided the survey results which start on page 4.

New deputy for systems acquisition plans organizational changes

By June Johns

Look for some changes to occur at the office of the deputy for systems acquisition (DSA), Aviation and Missile Command, now that John Johns is on board.

Johns is the new principal assistant deputy for systems acquisition. In this capacity, Johns serves as deputy to Brig. Gen. Robert Armbruster, and is the senior civilian responsible for management of more than 20 Army aviation, missile and ground systems.

Johns outlined the changes in store for this command during an interview with the Redstone Rocket.

A DSA realignment is planned, Johns said. "We're realigning the organization for the future by combining fixed wing, air traffic control, scout attack and aviation ground support equipment product offices under the project manager aviation systems."

Other changes will include integration of the Sentinel product manager into the short-range air defense project manager's office.

In addition, "we are terminating the enhanced fiber optic guided missile program, and we are moving the Hawk and Chaparral to the Security Assistance Management Directorate," Johns said.

These reorganizations are due to budget changes, as well as efforts to create "organizational flexibility to move personnel resources where the future requirements are," he said.

DSA on-board strength is approximately 270 Redstone employees; this excludes contractors supplying direct, related support and matrix support personnel from other



Photo by June Johns

NEW LEADER — Johns is the new principal assistant deputy for systems acquisition.

AMCOM elements. If these additional employees are factored in, the personnel count rises to between 700 and 800. Johns said that while the realignment will have a significant effect on DSA operations, it will have a minimal effect on these personnel.

Though only three weeks into the job, Johns already has some clear-cut goals defined for himself and the organization he will help lead. His primary focus during his first six months will be to "complete the realignment, and address all the personnel-related issues that have developed due to the Base Realignment and Closure action, continual long-term downsizing and recruitment restrictions," he said.

One particular area he will concentrate on involves an estimated 40 people within his organization who are currently working in "temporary promotion" positions. Johns wants to fill these positions permanently, noting that "right now, this situation creates stress on the people and stress on the organization." Johns has set a deadline of December "to clean up all temporary actions," which involve higher-level duties, increases in pay grades, and in some cases, changes in positions. Johns also explained that all permanent recruitments will be executed on a competitive basis to maximize opportunities for all qualified personnel.

Prior to stepping into his new position, Johns served as an associate director for systems with the Aviation Research, Development and Engineering Center, where he was responsible for the engineering support to developmental and fielded aviation systems.

In his new job, Johns deals with program management involving the entire life cycle of aviation, missile and ground systems.

And how does Johns view organizational operations in the more distant future — say, the first decade of the new millennium?

"We will initiate a major modernization program for the Black Hawk and keep the Kiowa Warrior operating effectively until the Comanche is fielded," he said.

DSA will "field a new generation of air traffic control equipment, and develop and field an array of advanced, short-range air defense and assault weapons," Johns said, adding, "business looks very strong."

Johns is a native of Pittsburgh, Pa. He

holds a bachelor's degree in aerospace engineering from Penn State, as well as a master's degree in aeronautics and astronautics from Purdue. His career includes civilian service in the Army, Air Force and Navy.



Photo by June Johns

SAFE DRIVING — It's no accident that Dominic and Dion James are in the driver's seat, coached by their father, Donald, during Redstone Arsenal's Aug. 3 "National Night Out" anti-crime event. See story and additional photos on page 10.

THAAD under new leadership
Shining start 3

Javelin Project gives sendoff
Going Dutch 8

Softball team ready for tourney
Marines roll 11

Letters to the editor

Cigarette butts

We have no problems with people smoking. The problem that we have is with all the cigarette butts that are thrown on the grounds around the Sparkman Complex, especially next to the fitness center. We have put signs on the doors asking people to please put their cigarette butts in the proper containers but to this day we still find them next to the fitness center. We can't believe that as many and as big as these containers are, cigarette butts are still being thrown on the grass. We at the Sparkman Fitness Center must pick up the cigarette butts that are thrown by others, others that are too lazy or they just don't care where they put their trash. If you are too lazy to put your cigarette butts in the proper containers, please don't smoke around the fitness center. Smoke in your car or in the parking lot. It takes more energy puffing on a cigarette than it takes putting the cigarette butt in its proper container. So please, if you must smoke, smoke your heart out but please put your cigarette butts and trash in the proper containers.

Nestor Centeno
Sparkman Fitness Center staff

Giving back to community

Redstone Base Supply Center and the Red Cross plan blood drive Thursday

By Keith Jordan

"It's another way for us to give back to our friends and neighbors," Lori Thomason, assistant manager of the Redstone Base Supply Center, says.

The Huntsville area American Red Cross and the Redstone BSC, operated by Alabama Industries for the Blind, will hold a blood drive Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at building 8022 on Cottonwood Road.

"We want to be good community neighbors and partners," Thomason says. This is just another way Thomason and her staff tries to do its fair share. Helping others is what Thomason and her BSC staff does each day. The BSC provides quality blind-made and commercial office supplies to federal and military personnel on and off Redstone Arsenal. All government agencies can shop at the Redstone BSC with the IMPAC credit card.

"The Skilcraft name and trademark are what all federal workers know as the sign of

first-rate quality products by skilled craftsmen at competitive prices," Thomason says. These products come from various agencies that employ the blind people across the United States. Copy and computer paper, toner cartridges, loose-leaf binders, pens and computer accessories are just some of the items for sale.

AIB, a non-profit organization, is a division of the Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind (AIDB) in Talladega. AIB has been providing blind employment opportunities to people for over 67 years. It is a little known fact that 70 percent of blind Americans are unemployed. AIB is the second largest employer of blind people in the United States.

"We are a lot like the Red Cross; we're both here to help others," Heath Brock, BSC store clerk, says. And with the community's support, Brock is confident that Redstone will be able to give back something special to friends, neighbors and customers Thursday. Twenty percent of the

greater Huntsville blood supply is provided by the Redstone community, according to local Red Cross officials.

The Red Cross needs to have at least 25 donors to make the drive successful. Donors are urged to call the Redstone BSC to sign up now. For more information or to sign up, call 876-5762.

Here are driving instructions to get to Redstone BSC: Take Jordan Lane south onto Redstone Arsenal. Continue south on Patton Road (same street, name changes on post) until you reach Buxton Road (caution light); go right. Take the second right, Cottonwood Road, to building 8022. Redstone Base Supply Center is in the east entrance. All you need to get your post access pass is to present the following to the gate guard on Patton Road: your driver's license, vehicle registration and your destination, which is building 8022.

(Editor's note: Jordan is sales and marketing coordinator for Alabama Industries for the Blind.)



Photo by Skip Vaughn

Union agreement...

LOGSA and the American Federation of Government Employees Local 1858 have signed their first union-employer agreement, effective for three years. Chris Gardner, left, chief negotiator for LOGSA, signs the contract along with Vicki Fuller, chief negotiator for AFGE. Looking on, from left, are Richard Manley, negotiator for management; Frank McCrary, union negotiator; Janet Dixon, union negotiator; Walter Pickett, management negotiator; Don Hunnicutt, union negotiator; and Bill Clemons, assistant president of AFGE Local 1858. The Logistics Support Activity, under the Army Materiel Command, was formed in October 1992 as a merger initiative by the AMC deputy chief of staff for logistics.

Ask JAG: Lemon laws may offer new car owners some relief

"I just bought a car and it keeps breaking down. I cannot seem to get the problem fixed. Is there a law that can assist me in getting some type of compensation from the dealer that sold me the car?"— Spec. H.

It depends on the age of the automobile, types of defects, state of purchase and actions you have pursued. Although Alabama has a lemon law that may assist you if you purchased the automobile in Alabama, it does not provide direct relief from the dealership. The relief would come from the manufacturer of the automobile. The law covers defects that substantially impair the use, safety, or market value and ONLY new automobiles (previously untitled) for personal use are covered.

You must show that you have made reasonable attempts to repair the vehicle. In general, reasonable attempt to repair is when there have been at least three attempts to repair the vehicle or if the vehi-

cle has been out of service for a total of 30 or more days. At least one attempt must have occurred within the first 12,000 miles or 12 months.

To receive protection under the law, you must notify the manufacturer, NOT the dealer of the defects and establish that your have made reasonable attempts to repair these defects. This notification should be sent via certified U.S. mail return receipt requested. The notification should describe the vehicle, defect(s), and all previous attempts to correct defects and a request for a FINAL ATTEMPT TO REPAIR. Documentation of attempts to repair should be included (do not send originals). Be sure to include your name, address, day and evening contact information, the license number, model and make of your vehicle, and date and location of

See JAG on page 15

Redstone Rocket

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Photo by Sandy Riebeling

ON THE GO—Since reporting for duty as the new project officer for THAAD, O'Reilly hasn't spent much time in the home office. He splits his time between system testing at White Sands Missile Range, N.M., and briefing officials in the Pentagon.

THAAD continues success under new leadership

Missile defense system a-shining in first flight test for Col. O'Reilly

By Sandy Riebeling

High expectations came with the title and responsibilities of the project manager for THAAD, one of the biggest programs in the Department of Defense. Just 18 days after taking on this new assignment, Col. Patrick O'Reilly and the Theater High Altitude Area Defense system scored big with a second successful test of the system at White Sands Missile Range, N.M., Aug. 2.

"To come on board and have this intercept has been a thrilling experience for me," O'Reilly said. "I am extremely proud and impressed by the professionals on this program in both industry and the government. This is a unique team of talented people."

The system has had a troubled history but is quickly rewriting itself as the premier weapon system in the Army. The Aug. 2 test was postponed from an earlier date due atmospheric conditions. This second intercept proves that the components— radar, battle management, launcher and missile — can and do comprise a capable system.

"The postponement had nothing to do with the system," O'Reilly said. "Performing a missile test is complicated. You're blowing something up and that creates debris. We had to make sure the wind conditions were right so that the debris would all fall back down onto the missile range. The system can perform in winds up to several hundred miles per hour."

Getting this test done created a lot of travel for O'Reilly. He's only been home a few days since taking the position July 15.

"My only regret (about the military) is the time away from my family," O'Reilly said. "The key to my success is my wife, Judy. We've been together 23 years. She's made a lot of sacrifices for the Army and my career. She believes in me and what I do. She is why I succeed."

O'Reilly and his wife have two daughters, Siobhan, 10 and Brighid, 5. His daughters' names are spelled in the traditional Irish language. Siobhan is translated, Judith, and Brighid carries the name of her great-great grandmother.

"Both mine and my wife's families are Irish," O'Reilly said. "My grandparents

came over here during the Civil War. We travel back to Ireland occasionally."

A few years ago O'Reilly was in Ireland during the St. Patrick's Day holiday, which is celebrated much differently in Ireland than in America.

"St. Patrick's Day is a holy day in Ireland," he said. "All the taverns are closed, which is quite different than what people do to celebrate it here. I guess we've Americanized it, but our family follows the traditional Irish custom for the holiday."

Taking the family on trips or just spending time with them outdoors is one of O'Reilly's favorite leisure activities.

"Last week I was teaching my 5-year-old how to ride her bike. She's a little shaky but she'll get it," he said.

His other outdoor hobby is fly fishing.

"It's something that I would love to make time for," O'Reilly said. "The last time I went was back in April with Paul Hoeper, the assistant secretary of the Army for acquisition, logistics and technology. We went to Big Spring Creek in Pennsylvania. I like to take Siobhan fishing. We've been fishing in Thiokol Pond since she was 6. I expect Brighid will be joining us soon. She likes worms."

O'Reilly was stationed at Redstone in 1994 as the assistant program manager for THAAD but that wasn't his first work with the program.

See O'Reilly on page 14



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

TAKING IT EASY— Fly fishing is a hobby O'Reilly hopes to make time for once he's settled into his new home and position. This picture taken at Big Spring Creek in Pennsylvania in April was O'Reilly's last fishing trip.

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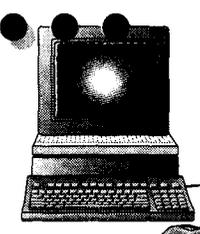
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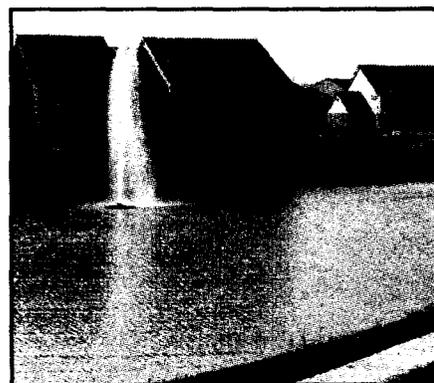
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Redstone Rocket readers tell what they like, dislike about the newspaper in electronic survey

The survey's overall findings

Most of the answers in the Rocket readership survey appear positive, but you pointed out at least one shortcoming.

We need to be more stimulating.

While 114 of the more than 450 respondents believe we make them think, 128 don't agree. And 210 were neutral on that question.

Other concerns gleaned from the survey include: distribution/receiving, photographic quality, lack of military news, and not enough retiree news.

We'll try to get better. Our thanks to all who responded.

— Skip Vaughn
Rocket editor

Redstone Rocket

REPORT
CARD

Writing...B
Readability...B
Photography...B
Overall appearance...B

Good Work
Interesting
Color
Sports

Specific questions

1. Have you read an issue of the Redstone Rocket in the past year?

a. Yes 452
b. No 2

2. How often do you usually read the Redstone Rocket?

a. All of the time 288
b. Most of the time 137
c. Some of the time 18
d. Once in a while 8
e. Never 1

3. About how many issues of the Redstone Rocket have you read in the last month?

a. None 3
b. One 20
c. Two 49
d. Three 109
e. Four 271

4. How soon after the Redstone Rocket is distributed do you usually read it?

a. Same day it is distributed 306
b. A day or two after distribution 111
c. More than three days after it is distributed 17
d. Varies greatly from issue to issue 18

5. How much of each issue of the Redstone Rocket do you usually read?

a. All or most of it 140
b. Quite a bit 171
c. Some 112
d. A little 25
e. Almost none of it 4

6. How do you usually obtain an issue of the Redstone Rocket?

a. Nearby distribution stand 49
b. PX/Commissary/Snack bar area 19
c. Unit distribution 115
d. Dropped near my workplace/home 212
e. Other source 57

7. To what extent do you find the Redstone Rocket as a reliable source of news about what is going on in the Army?

a. Very great extent 50
b. Great extent 148
c. Moderate extent 70
d. Slight extent 168
e. Not at all 6

8. To what extent do you find the Redstone Rocket as a reliable source of news about what is going on at Redstone Arsenal?

a. Very great extent 88
b. Great extent 213
c. Moderate extent 123
d. Slight extent 26
e. Not at all 2

Amount of coverage

How do you feel about the amount of coverage in the Redstone Rocket given to the following topics?

9. Awards and ceremonies (such as retirements, promotions, awards)

a. Too much coverage 60
b. About right 310
c. Not enough coverage 82

10. Current affairs in the civilian community

a. Too much coverage 19
b. About right 276
c. Not enough coverage 157

11. Editorials/commentaries

a. Too much coverage 18
b. About right 311
c. Not enough coverage 123

12. Family programs/services

a. Too much coverage 39
b. About right 356
c. Not enough coverage 57

13. General features about people and their work, hobbies, etc.

a. Too much coverage 66
b. About right 290
c. Not enough coverage 96

14. Installation events

a. Too much coverage 10
b. About right 321
c. Not enough coverage 121

15. Military news

a. Too much coverage 37
b. About right 294
c. Not enough coverage 121

16. Sports

a. Too much coverage 88
b. About right 328
c. Not enough coverage 36

17. Topical/controversial issues (such as child abuse, fraternization)

a. Too much coverage 25
b. About right 272
c. Not enough coverage 155

18. Travel information

a. Too much coverage 14
b. About right 243
c. Not enough coverage 195

Views on content

To what extent do you agree with the following descriptions of the content of the Redstone Rocket?

19. Easy to read

a. Strongly agree 138
b. Agree 265
c. Neither agree nor disagree 38
d. Disagree 7
e. Strongly disagree 4

20. Easy to understand

a. Strongly agree 140
b. Agree 283
c. Neither agree nor disagree 24
d. Disagree 3
e. Strongly disagree 2

21. Fair and accurate

a. Strongly agree 56
b. Agree 246
c. Neither agree nor disagree 128
d. Disagree 17
e. Strongly disagree 5

22. Interesting

a. Strongly agree 43
b. Agree 264
c. Neither agree nor disagree 99
d. Disagree 38
e. Strongly disagree 8

23. Provides useful information

a. Strongly agree 64
b. Agree 279
c. Neither agree nor disagree 86
d. Disagree 18
e. Strongly disagree 5

24. Source of new ideas

a. Strongly agree 16
b. Agree 139
c. Neither agree nor disagree 193
d. Disagree 89
e. Strongly disagree 15

25. Stimulating, makes you think

a. Strongly agree 10
b. Agree 104
c. Neither agree nor disagree 210
d. Disagree 105
e. Strongly disagree 23

26. Timely, up-to-date

a. Strongly agree 40
b. Agree 275
c. Neither agree nor disagree 99
d. Disagree 31
e. Strongly disagree 7

27. Well written

a. Strongly agree 56
b. Agree 267
c. Neither agree nor disagree 104
d. Disagree 16
e. Strongly disagree 9

See Survey on page 6





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EEO counselors serve as bridge between employee-management

Nineteen counselors completed the Equal Employment Opportunity Counselor Course taught in April by EEO Office staff.

The following 14 counselors were presented with their Department of the Army Certification by Col. Clifton Broderick, AMCOM chief of staff, Aug. 4: Vivian Anderson, Frances Baker, Lula Bell, Tony Bowden, Juanetta Brent, Tony Caldwell, Donald Foster, Joseph Gerry, Donna Johnson, Viola Lipscomb, Janet Pea, Darlene Readus, Monroe Walker and Roosevelt Whitfield. Other counselors who were also certified but unable to attend are Norma Dalton, Kristi Foster, Betty Harrison, Reta Richardson and Janice Williams.

During August the EEO Office will again be recruiting EEO counselors. Counselors play a vital role in the EEO program as they establish an open channel through which employees may raise questions, discuss problems and obtain answers relative to Title VII issues on an informal basis.

Title VII issues include discrimination in employment because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or handicap. The counselor serves as a bridge between the employee and management, and is responsible for attempting to resolve problems presented by employees. A counselor should possess the characteristics of empathy, objectivity, resourcefulness, honesty and a personal commitment to promote equal job opportunity for all persons. A counselor should be able to communicate

effectively with persons of different races, sexes, national origins, ages, and economic, cultural, and educational backgrounds. Counselors are expected to converse with persons of different levels, including those who hold key management positions in the command, gather and analyze a variety of pertinent facts and opinions concerning controversial issues, submit a clear and concise report with solid recommendations, and act equitably in arriving at problem resolution.

Interested employees should submit a memorandum through their supervisor to the Equal Employment Opportunity Office (AMSAM-EO), Building 5300, Room 5130, stating why they desire to become an EEO counselor by 31 Aug 99. For more information contact Kate Love, 876-8015 or Jackie White, 876-3591. The EEO staff will interview prospective counselors. If selected, the employee and his or her organization will be notified of the selection. New counselors are required to attend a one-week Department of the Army Basic Counselors Course. The course is conducted on-site by the EEO staff with certification granted by Department of the Army based on predetermined testing criteria. Upon certification, counselors are appointed by the commanding general with an appointment memorandum distributed to AMCOM and serviced activities.

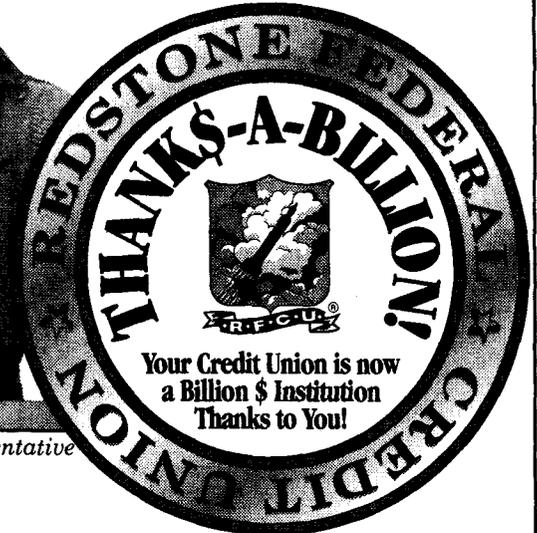
Every effort will be made to ensure that a counselor handles no more than two complaints per quarter. (EEO Office release)

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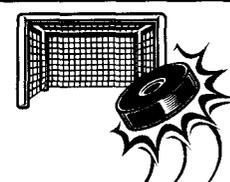


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■ Readers express their opinions on Redstone Rocket coverage, content and appearance

Survey

continued from page 4

Appearance

How do you rate the following aspects of the appearance of the Redstone Rocket?

28. Art and illustrations

a. Excellent	37
b. Very good	147
c. Good	188
d. Fair	74
e. Poor	6

29. Charts and graphs

a. Excellent	23
b. Very good	99
c. Good	22
d. Fair	96
e. Poor	12

30. Layout and design

a. Excellent	50
b. Very good	125
c. Good	184
d. Fair	81
e. Poor	12

31. Photography

a. Excellent	34
b. Very good	146
c. Good	177
d. Fair	78
e. Poor	17

32. Quality of printing

a. Excellent	44
b. Very good	158
c. Good	167
d. Fair	64
e. Poor	19

33. Readability of the print/type used

a. Excellent	63
b. Very good	65

c. Good	179
d. Fair	37
e. Poor	8

34. Use of color

a. Excellent	25
b. Very good	102
c. Good	183
d. Fair	97
e. Poor	45

35. Overall appearance

a. Excellent	47
b. Very good	150
c. Good	193
d. Fair	51
e. Poor	11

36. Some military newspapers contain display advertising in addition to classified ads. How useful are the display ads in the Redstone Rocket to you?

a. Extremely useful	27
b. Very useful	99
c. Moderately useful	162
d. Slightly useful	96
e. Not at all useful	68

37. Overall, how would you rate the content and the appearance of the Redstone Rocket?

a. Excellent	44
b. Very good	167
c. Good	171
d. Fair	64
e. Poor	6

Personal statistics

38. What is your sex?

a. Female	208
b. Male	246

39. How old are you?

a. Under 29	16
b. 30-39	94
c. 40-49	154
d. 50 or over	190

40. What is the highest level of education you have completed?

a. Less than high school	1
b. High school or GED	25
c. Some college, no degree	100
d. Associate degree or vocational license	8
e. Bachelor's degree	184
f. Graduate and/or professional degree	106

41. What is your current status?

a. Member of the U.S. armed forces	14
b. DA civilian	376
c. Family member of U.S. servicemember	1
d. Family member of DA civilian	7
e. Other	56

42. With what service are you or your spouse affiliated?

a. Army	413
b. Air Force	6
c. Navy	2
d. Marines	3
e. Other	13

43. What is your position or your spouse's position?

a. Supervisor	42
b. Non-supervisor	400
c. Officer	8
d. Enlisted	4



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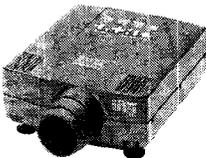
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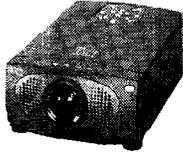
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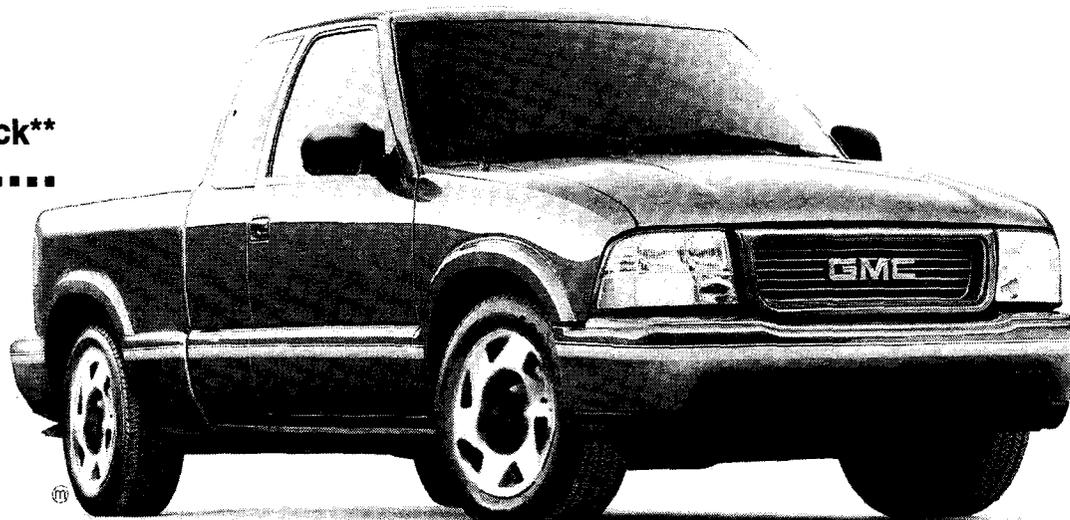
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A passion for family...

NCO of Year credits father as most influential in his life



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

PAPERWORK—As personnel services NCO much of Varon's job is getting the facts and figures, times and places down on paper to enhance soldiers' lives.

By Sandy Riebeling

When Post NCO of the Year, Sgt. Carlo Varon joined the Army in 1994, he was hoping to make up for lost time.

"I was already 24 years old when I joined," Varon, personnel services NCO, said. "Joining the Army didn't sound too bad—schooling, a roof over my family's head and the opportunity to serve my country."

When Varon calls America, "my country," he speaks with a Spanish accent and he speaks from the heart. He is a native of Santa Marta, Columbia, South America. Much of his youth in this coastal city was spent attending an American school, taught by Americans, who observed American holidays.

He came to the United States in 1985 as an international high school student. He

graduated from a Florida high school and was in his first year of college when tragedy struck his family, and his life was forever changed.

"My dad taught me to work hard each and every day—it was what he did," Varon said. "Nine years ago he and my two brothers were robbed, shot and killed. He was a gold and emerald dealer. To do this, he had to invest everything into the business and when he was killed, the merchandise was gone, he was gone and we lost everything but the house my mother lived in."

Not only did Varon have to deal with the loss of his father, brothers and the family's financial ruin, but that meant he had to quit school because he could no longer

See NCO on page 9

Dutch treat

Javelin missile team thank outgoing Dutch army procurement officer

By Skip Vaughn

It was so cold the test missile system had to be heated up to minus-25, but the Dutch procurement officer didn't mind.

Lt. Col. Peter van der Togt of the Royal Netherlands Army has fond memories of his five years in the United States, even the Javelin cold weather testing in February in Alaska.

Van der Togt is returning to the Netherlands after completing his tour at the Dutch Embassy in Washington, D.C. The Javelin Project Office gave him a sendoff Thursday.

"The Netherlands is still very interested in Javelin and we received a lot of information here," van der Togt said. While serving as procurement officer for the Dutch army, he made several trips to Redstone each year.

"Redstone is, of all the commands we work with, the most important command—AMCOM," van der Togt said. Besides Javelin he worked with other systems including Dragon, Stinger, TOW, and Multiple Launch Rocket System.

He will become deputy chief of the Division Support Command in Apeldoorn, Netherlands, starting Oct. 1. His successor as procurement officer is Lt. Col. Willem Weg, who formerly served as product manager for the Dutch short-range air defense program.

"It's a dual feeling," van der Togt said of leaving the United States. "I hate to leave but I'm glad to go back home.

"I made a lot of friends here and I really feel that they are friends and I'm sorry to leave them. And I hope that I will have

the opportunity to see them whenever in the Netherlands. And I hope if the Javelin is selected as the medium range anti-tank missile, that they'll have the opportunity to come to the Netherlands often."

The Netherlands is deciding whether to buy the Javelin missile system for its army and marines.

"It's in competition at the moment and our government has to decide on the system we're going to produce, but we've gotten all the information we've asked for," van der Togt said. "It is a fantastic system and we have every confidence that it's good. The only bad thing about it is that it's expensive—and quality always is when it's good."

Van der Togt entered the Dutch army in 1967. His wife, Ellia, left the states earlier last week. Their two youngest children attended school in the U.S.

"My wife left (for the Netherlands) two days ago and called and said, 'Hey I'm homesick, I want to come back,'" van der Togt said, laughing.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

WARM SENDOFF—Gerald Smith, deputy project manager for Javelin, presents to van der Togt a picture of a Dutch soldier firing the missile system in Alaska.

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NCO

continued from page 8

pay tuition. His "undefined" status in the U.S. made it difficult to get a job. It was a difficult place to be.

"About a year after my dad died I got married," Varon said. "My wife is Columbian but she was working and going to school in the United States. After our daughter was born, I decided to go back to Columbia. My uncle owned several factories and I was going to manage one."

The pay was not enough to support a family and his wife, Fiore, wanted very much for him to return to the U.S., so he

came back, with \$50 in his pocket. Two weeks later he got a job in Miami but it still it was not enough.

"When the recruiter came and told me about the Army, it sounded like a way to make up for lost time. I wasn't sure what I wanted to do in the Army so I chose something clerical— something that would allow me to go to school."

Varon will graduate from Calhoun Community College in December, just before he and his family make the move to Fort Jackson, S.C., where he expects to continue his education.

"I want to get a bachelor's degree while I'm there and maybe start on my master's," he said, adding that his educational plans

include earning a doctorate.

"I don't want people to think that the only reason I came in the Army was for an education," Varon said. "Yes, I have a plan but I owe a debt of gratitude to this country. I am here to serve and defend it. I also want to do what is right for my family. They are my life's passion."

A passion, Varon says, he inherited from his own father.

"My father was the most influential person in my life," he said. "He taught me determination, personal courage and compassion—to always do my best, to always have a winner's attitude, to take care of your family."

Perhaps it is this attitude that inspired him to be first in his advanced individual

training class, finishing as distinguished honor graduate. It probably helped him along as he undertook the "mission" to compete for NCO of the Quarter last October. And maybe he was exhibiting those cherished characteristics his father had instilled in him when he was chosen as Redstone Arsenal NCO of the Year.

"I went out to represent my unit honorably," he said. "Providence had it that I was the winner. There are a lot of good NCOs—I know. My job is not to compete against them but to compete against myself—to set the standard high."

Varon's wife was at the luncheon July 23 when the winner was announced. The couple have two children, Lisa, 8, and Carlos, 5.

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Photo by June Johns

BECAUSE WE LIKE YOU - Jordan Brantley and Minnie Mouse take a break from the fun to pose for the camera.

Redstone community takes night out against crime

Annual event draws hundreds for fun activities with serious message

By June Johns

Hundreds of adults and children flocked to the 11th annual Redstone Arsenal "National Night Out" anti-crime celebration. The Aug. 3 event took place from 6-9 p.m. outside the Youth Services Center, located off Goss Road, and was sponsored by the Provost Marshal's Office.

The weather cooperated with temperate temperatures and the hint of a breeze, allowing those present to enjoy the food, frivolity and educational exhibits.

This annual event is a "concerted effort of communities worldwide combining with law enforcement to highlight activities to help fight crime," according to information released by Maj. Janice Smith, provost marshal.

Activities during this three-hour evening event included games, food, and prize giveaways as part of the night-time lineup.

With a theme of "Prevention Works," displays and participation by community groups was another key element of this anti-crime event, which mixed information services with fun.

An estimated 54 local organizations participated, according to Sgt. Monroe Dugdale, event organizer. The roster of participating groups offering safety tips includ-

ed Crime Stoppers, the Madison County Rescue Squad, the Alabama State Troopers, and Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

In addition, these local groups provided attending children with the opportunity to tour and sit inside emergency vehicles on hand, according to Dugdale. These included a fire engine, a HEMSI ambulance, and a rescue squad vehicle.

Representatives from the Army's Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD), informally known as the Army bomb squad, were also on hand, presenting EOD displays concentrating on disabling bombs and other homemade explosive devices.

SSgt. Jerry Grose, who works with the EOD training department, was present at the National Night Out event for the second time, and estimated that attendance at this year's event had grown by 25 percent over the previous year.

Organizers such as Dugdale begin the detailed task of putting together the yearly

National Night Out celebration about four months in advance. In order to be successful, the event also requires scores of workers.

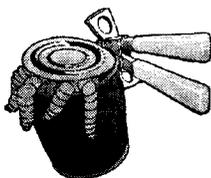
This event was brought to a close at 9 p.m., as 15 emergency vehicles simultaneously sounded their sirens, ending yet another successful Night Out at Redstone Arsenal.



Photo by June Johns

YUMMY! - Bradley Taylor enjoys a juicy hot dog.

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Marines' game-winning homer has Gators seeing red

Hodges slams two-run shot in sixth inning as Marines surge toward postseason

By Skip Vaughn

The ball hit the top of the left field fence and bounced over. It was just the lift the Marines needed.

This clutch two-run homer by Red Hodges in the bottom of the sixth gave the Marines the lead in their softball showdown Aug. 4 against Headquarters and Alpha Company team-1 EOD. They retired the Gators in the seventh for the 8-6 win.

The Marines finished the regular season with a 12-1 record and momentum for the post-season tournament. The Gators fell to 8-2.

"Just a hard-fought game and we lucked out on top," Hodges said. His third home run of the season was the difference.

The score was tied 6-all in the sixth when J.D. "Catfish" Slaton hit a leadoff single. Slaton, the winning pitcher, scored on Hodges' homer.

"That was a good ballgame that we played tonight and I'm sure we're going to see them in the postseason and we wish them well," Skip Middleton, the Marines player-coach, said. "They're good sports. They played a clean game, and we appreciate that."

The Marines now turn their attention to the postseason tournament scheduled Aug. 16-20. They hope to help their chances for the annual Commander's Cup sports trophy.

"The better we place, the more points we get toward the Commander's Cup. And that's our goal this year," Middleton said. "The Marine Corps has had the Commander's Cup for the last two years,



Photo by Skip Vaughn

GAME BREAKERS— Discussing the Marines latest win are, from left, Slaton, Hodges and Middleton.

and we'd like to win it for the third consecutive year. And it just says a lot about our unit and how competitive we are. We're pretty proud."

The Gators have lost twice to the Marines. The Marines suffered their only loss to AMCOM by 24-19 on Aug. 2. "Half our team was TDY," Middleton said after that defeat.

The Gators took a 1-0 lead in the top of the first on an RBI triple by John Bobich. The Marines bounced back with four runs in the bottom of the inning, including a run-scoring hit by Hodges and a two-run double by Thomas Neis.

Three errors by the Marines led to a five-run third for the Gators who took a 6-4 lead.

Hodges and Neis each singled and scored as the Marines tied the game in the fourth. Hodges finished the night at 3-for-3 with three RBIs, including the two-run homer, and three runs scored. Neis went 2-for-3 with two doubles, two RBIs and two runs.

Kent Hamann was 2-for-4 with an RBI and run for the Gators. Tim Whitaker and Chuck Hague added two hits apiece. Derryl Valk took the loss.

"It was a good game," Randy Garmon, the Gators player-coach, said. "Our defense did well. Our sticks were on. It just came down to the last wire. The Marines: they're a good team. We had them before, we'll have them again."

"That home run, that's what put them

LOGSA golf scramble draws sweet 16 teams

Sixteen teams competed in the four-person scramble that is held in conjunction with the Logistics Support Activity's annual picnic.

The winning team consisted of Rod Mills, Steve Statler, Dawn Statler and Gary Wallace. They shot a 67, five under par.

Second place went to Kevin Paulson, Lou Sciaroni, Ed Nyberg and Carol Cyberg with a 68.

There was a three-way tie for third at 69. The teams were Vic Vergara, Linda Thompson, Nathan Neal and Bill Edwards; Jim Ennis, Jeff Reed, Bill Newman and June Newman; and Skip Limmer, Chuck Slyker, Linda Bailey and Skip Popp. Closest to the pin winners were Gordon Johnson, Bob Gilliland, Lou Sciaroni, and Chuck Slyker.

Longest drive winners were Ed Nyberg and Linda Thompson.

over. Sometimes you have them, sometimes you don't. But overall it was a good game."

Here are the regular season standings as of Aug. 4: In the Eastern Conference, Delta Company 832nd (8-2), Charlie Company 832nd (4-4), Headquarters & Alpha team-2 Reclass (4-6), MEDDAC (3-6), Headquarters & Alpha team-3 Warrants (3-8 dropped from league). In the Western Conference, Marines (12-1), Headquarters & Alpha team-1 EOD (8-2), AMCOM (6-3), Bravo 832nd (3-9 dropped from league), and HHC 59th (1-12 dropped from league).

The Wright stuff

Huntsville native leads 832nd Ordnance Battalion into millennium

By Skip Vaughn

A household repair job was putting the battalion commander's leadership philosophy to the test.

Lt. Col. John Wright, commander of the 832nd Ordnance Battalion, says he believes in values, innovation, perseverance and perspective. But a garage door opener fried by lightning is enough to challenge all four of those areas. At least he could still laugh about it.

"Now it will go up but won't come down," he said, relaying a message just received from his wife who was watching the repairman.

As if leading a battalion doesn't present enough challenges already. Wright, a Huntsville native, assumed command of the 832nd on June 16 from retiring Col. George Mixon. He served the past three years at the Pentagon as a program analyst in the program analysis and evaluation directorate under the office of the Army chief of staff.

Wright was born in Atlanta but grew up in Huntsville. His parents and two brothers still reside here. "So I'm very fortunate to be returning to Huntsville and Madison

See Wright on page 13

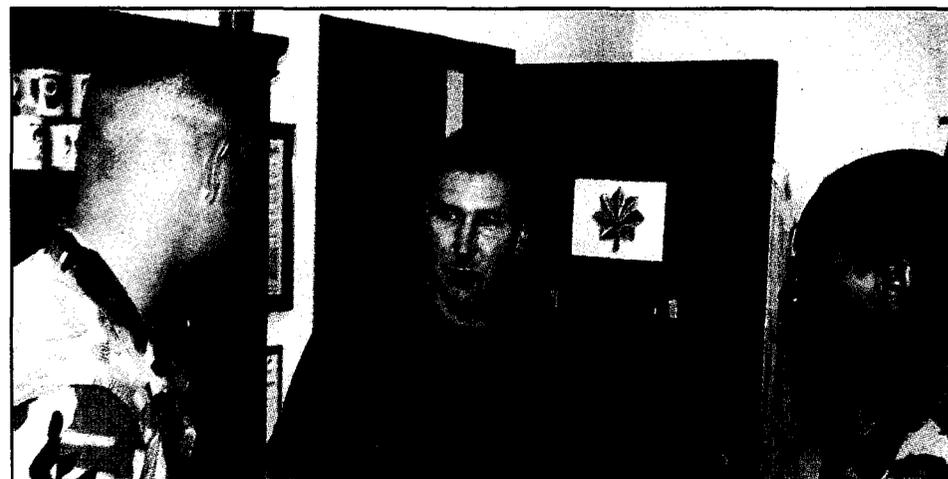


Photo by Skip Vaughn

CARING COMMANDER—Wright talks to Pvt. John Cooper, left, of Charlie Company, and Sgt. Arethra Glenn of Headquarters and Alpha Company.

Joe Sartain

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Ramirez competed to win...

Redstone Soldier of Year believes in working hard, going for gold

By Sandy Riebeling

Winning Redstone Arsenal Soldier of the Year was an early birthday present for Spec. Gerson Ramirez, a medical equipment repair specialist with the Medical Department Activity. July 23, just four days before the Dominican Republic native turned 24, it was announced at a luncheon that he was the winner of the competition.

"It is the biggest success of my life," Ramirez said, "a great, great honor to be selected. I thank God for it and I am grateful to the community for their overwhelming support."

The plaques, memberships, coupons, dinners, services, cash gifts and honors of post soldier of the year doesn't come easy. Ramirez studied and prepared extensively to compete at the soldier of the month board back in August 1998, which earned him entry into the competition for soldier of the year.

"I remember that I was nervous when I

went to the post soldier of the month boards, but I had faith," he said. "This time when I went, I had peace. I worked very hard and studied a lot. I didn't want to go to the board thinking I will lose. You have to do things right the first time. A lot of people helped me. I didn't want to disappoint them."

And he didn't. Ramirez was especially grateful to his MEDDAC NCO in-charge, Sgt. Kenneth Ballard.

"He worked with me a lot," Ramirez said. "He trained me to go over there and win. I remember one day he made me put on a chemical hazard suit like 10 times in one day, just to be sure I was ready."

Ramirez looks back now and laughs about what he went through to compete but he took his responsibility very seriously. "Others say, 'It is not worth it,' but I know, it is worth it. Not for the medal. You learn, you grow as a person and a professional soldier. It changes you for the better."



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

REPAIRMAN—Redstone Arsenal is the first permanent duty station for Ramirez, a medical equipment repair specialist.

It was the need to change and grow that brought Ramirez to this country in 1995, and why he stayed.

"I came with my mother and sister to visit my aunt who lived in New York City," he said. "When they went home, I stayed here with relatives. I wanted to go to college. I was trying to get work and start school when my relatives moved to New Jersey. It was frustrating

because I had to start all over again and I had not made any progress before we moved."

A few months after moving to New Jersey, Ramirez's relatives again moved, this time to Ohio. Having his dreams interrupted before even being launched, Ramirez decided to stay in New Jersey with his uncle. He was taking training for a sales job, hoping to make enough money to pitch in for room and board as well as start college when he met up with a recruiter.

Ramirez had considered a military career a year earlier but his mother was very much against it so he honored her wishes and kept working toward that college dream. After what he refers to as a year of "wasted time," he felt he couldn't wait any longer and joined the Army in 1996.

"My mother was not happy," he said. "She worried about what might happen to me."

When it came time for him to select a Military Occupational Specialty, Ramirez turned down several before he found one that suited him, and then the other shoe dropped.

"Six years?" he said to the counselor. "I have to enlist for six years to work in this field?"

He was a little less than confident at the

See Ramirez on page 13

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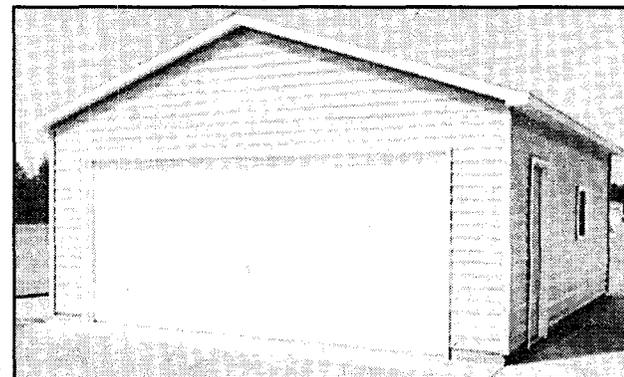
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Ramirez

continued from page 12

beginning but by the time he started the 10 months of training in Colorado, he knew it was a good decision.

"I met people who had been trying to get into this field for years," Ramirez said. "They had waiting lists for my job and I was lucky enough to have been offered it."

Joining the Army was the right decision, according to Ramirez.

"You move a lot but the job is stable and it is a way to build a career and a life. To do something to make my dad proud," he said, adding that both his parents are pleased with his decision.

"I like the military. Everybody works together. There is no prejudice. We're all

green. The military has honor, discipline and all these wonderful people that become your family. We depend on each other and take care of each other. I take pride in what I do."

While Ramirez works his way up the ranks, he is also going to school at Calhoun College working toward a degree in electronic engineering technology. His duties with MEDDAC include repair and service of medical equipment at the medical center, dental clinic, vet clinic, troop medical clinic and the Veteran's hospital in Huntsville.

Ramirez is planning a military career. Winning post soldier of the year and his first Army Achievement Medal is a great start. He is working on the application for citizenship to this country, which is required for soldiers serving more than eight years in the military.

832nd Ordnance Battalion commander faces challenges

Wright

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County, the Tennessee Valley," he said.

Assuming command of the 832nd is "a wonderful opportunity for myself both personally and professionally," Wright said.

This is his first permanent-duty assignment at Redstone. He was here in 1981-82 as a student in the Munitions Materiel Management course and a follow-on course in Nuclear Weapons Management. Wright returned for the advanced course in 1985-86.

"It's a viable community. It's certainly important in the overall defense preparedness

of the nation. I like working here. Certainly the environment is conducive to training," he said.

Wright, 40, is one of six children of Peter and Jean Wright. His father, a retired colonel in the Reserves, was a NASA employee for many years. The oldest of three sons, Wright graduated from Huntsville High in 1977. He went to Georgia Tech on an Army ROTC scholarship and graduated in 1981 with a bachelor's degree in industrial and systems engineering. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the Ordnance Corps. Wright received a master's degree in business

See Wright on page 14

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O'Reilly

continued from page 3

"I came to this job with a unique perspective of the program," O'Reilly said. "I worked with the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization at the Pentagon from '90-'94, solely on this project. Then I worked as the assistant manager for THAAD. I've been with this program in one way or another for a long time."

From its inception, O'Reilly has seen this system grow and develop. He is ready to take it to the next phase. A third successful intercept is required before the system goes into engineering, manufacturing and development. The next test is scheduled for September. The system will spend three years in EMD, being honed and simplified to reduce costs, before another year of testing and the beginning of production.

"I expect to be here at least four years," he said.

O'Reilly's Army career began at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. He was a junior at the college when he met his wife, Judy. She's been with him throughout his career which has taken them to many parts of the country and the world. He earned a bachelor's degree from West Point in 1978 and entered the Army.

"We're looking forward to settling in," O'Reilly said. "Judy is planning to spend a lot of time this year volunteering at Williams Elementary. She likes to get involved with the kids' education and the community. We live on post because she really likes the Army community and wants to stay involved."

O'Reilly succeeded Col. Louis Deeter, who retired in July.

Wright

continued from page 13

administration, with a concentration in materiel acquisition management, from Babson College in 1991.

As 832nd commander, Wright leads a training battalion that has four companies: Headquarters & Alpha, Bravo, Charlie, and Delta. This represents about 800 soldiers at Redstone. In addition the battalion has administrative oversight for four detachments: the EOD training detachment at Eglin Air Force Base, Fla.; the TMDE training detachment at Keesler AFB, Miss.; an MLRS training detachment at Fort Sill, Okla.; and a Patriot training detachment at Fort Bliss, Texas.

Altogether the 832nd has about 1,100 soldiers.

"Numerical goals are not so much the key. We're going to measure ourselves by the quality of the soldier that is produced by the battalion as well as OMMCS (the Ordnance Missile and Munitions Center and School), because there's really a partnership there," Wright said.

He and his wife, Tammy, have three daughters: Holly, 16, Allison, 7, and Abby, 4. His hobbies include model trains, spending time with the children, running, and participating in thinking expeditions.

Soldiers here may be in training from 10-30 weeks unlike other Army schools that typically last eight weeks. And the

See Wright on page 15

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Wright

continued from page 14

stay is even longer for soldiers who have completed training but are awaiting national agency checks before they can receive a clearance. Keeping them motivated presents a challenge for the 832nd, according to Wright.

"The company commanders do an excellent job," he said. "The company commanders, the first sergeants, the drill sergeants, and all the cadre: They're the ones who do the day-to-day execution of the mission. And if it weren't for them, this would almost be a bridge too far. So it's not about me, it's about them."

JAG

continued from page 2

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you would have to look at contract laws in determining your rights.

The Redstone Arsenal Legal office can assist you in determining whether you have a valid claim against the manufacturer. We can also assist you with the final attempt to repair letter. All cases are different and are usually fact driven. It is always a good idea to seek the assistance of an attorney before pursuing any actions that may have legal consequences.

(Editor's note: Send all questions to ASK JAG: chin-zen.plotner@redstone.army.mil. The Legal Assistance Office is open Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. An appointment with a legal assistance attorney may be made by calling 876-9005.)

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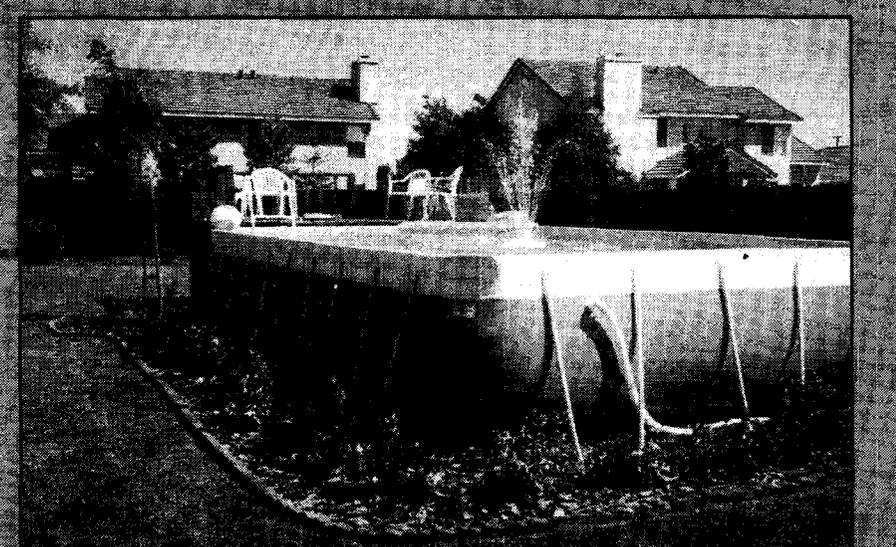
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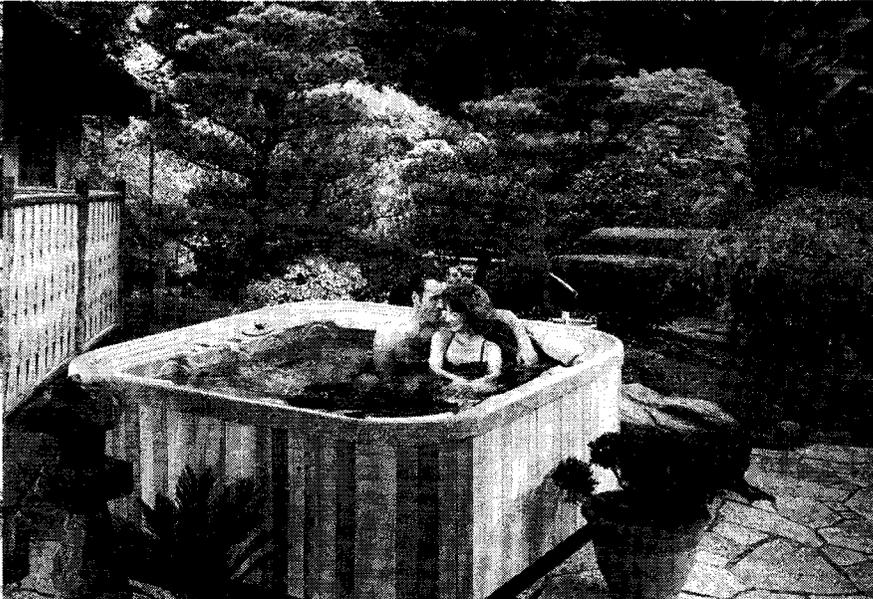
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Rocketman triathlon

The sixth annual Heart Center Rocketman Triathlon will be held Aug. 29 at 7:30 a.m. at the Col. Hudson Recreation Area on Redstone Arsenal. This race benefits the Marine Corps' "Toys for Tots" Program. For more information call Bob Mulkey, race director, 883-7399 during the evening hours.

Ten-miler tryouts

Tryouts for Redstone Arsenal's team in the Army Ten-Miler will be held 5 a.m. Aug. 21 and 5 a.m. Aug. 28 near Sparkman Fitness Center. The team will consist of at least six military members plus two civilians. Cutoff time for participants is 80 minutes. The team will compete in the annual Army Ten-Miler in October in Washington, D.C. For more information call Skip Vaughn, coach, 876-1500 or Alexander Steel, assistant coach, 876-3867.

Running club

The Huntsville-Redstone Hash House Harriers, a social hounds and hares running club, meets every Saturday at 3 p.m. To find out more and start locations, call Larry McDowell 882-5380 or browse <http://www.gthhh.com/hrhhh.htm>.

Golf tournament

A benefit golf tournament will be held 7:30 a.m. Sept. 18 at Colonial Golf Course in Meridianville. Complimentary breakfast starts at 7. This four-man scramble tournament is to benefit the Meridianville Middle School Girls Basketball Booster Club. Cost is \$200 per team. Winners receive \$200 for first place, \$100 for second, and \$50 for third. Registration deadline is Sept. 9. For more information call Larry Tate 828-6675, Cary West 828-5466 or Cindy Markham 828-5459.

Young bowlers

Rocket Lanes will hold "Youth Appreciation Day" from 9 a.m. to noon Aug. 21. This bowling bonanza is for ages 3-21. The appreciation day includes two free games, free shoe rental, one hot dog and a small drink for each youth who bowls between 9 a.m. and noon. For more information, call 876-6634.



Ceremonies

Retirement ceremony

The Quarterly Post Retirement Ceremony will be held at 4 p.m. Aug. 19 between buildings 5303 and 5304 at the Sparkman Center grounds. Rehearsal will be held at 8 a.m. Aug. 19 in the same location. Retirees who wish to participate should call MSgt. William Loew, RASA Support Operations, 876-2819 by Aug. 5.

LOGSA commander

Brig. Gen. John Deyermond, Army Materiel Command deputy chief of staff for logistics and operations, will hold a change of command ceremony for the Logistics Support Activity from 8-8:30 a.m. Friday in the Sparkman Auditorium. The outgoing LOGSA commander is Col. Ronald Hyatte; and the incoming commander is Col. Jerry Warnement.



Miscellaneous

Sergeants major

The Sergeants Major Association will hold its monthly breakfast meeting from 6:30-7:30 a.m. Aug. 19 at the Radisson Suite Hotel on South Memorial Parkway. For more information, call Sgt. Maj. Marvin Whitted 842-2879.

Mr. Man quest

The quest has begun for the ninth annual "Mr. Man Premiere." SB Productions will present this exciting and enchanting event Sept. 3 at the Redstone Arsenal Club. Dinner will promptly be served at 7 p.m. and the show will start at 8. Due to the overwhelming response to the concept and buildup of this Premiere, tickets went on sale Aug. 2 until sellout. Contestants will be judged by a selected panel in the areas of style, finesse, personality, performance and sincerity. "Seating is limited and there will be no standing room. We apologize in advance to those who will have to wait for next year's event," Samuel Brown of SB

Productions said. Ticket locations are Region's Bank (Redstone Branch), Randall's Formal Wear, and Madison Avenue Fashions. For more information, call 233-4702 or 650-7736.

AMCOM town hall

Maj. Gen. Al Sullivan, commander of AMCOM and Redstone Arsenal, will hold his first town hall meeting with the work force Thursday from 9-10:30 a.m. in the Sparkman Auditorium. The meeting will be broadcast over Redstone Arsenal TV channel 42. Sullivan will announce leadership changes, inform you of his priorities for the command, and provide an update on Reshape, AMCOM 2000, and promotion prospects.

Resource managers

The American Society of Military Comptrollers will hold its monthly luncheon at 11:30 a.m. Thursday at Trinity Personal Growth Center, Airport Road. Leigh Gonterman, vice president of AmSouth Bank, is to speak on "Banking Yesterday and Tomorrow." Cost is \$9 for members, \$10 for non-members. For reservations call Janet Siersma 955-3890.

Catholic community

Our Lady of the Valley, Catholic Community at Bicentennial Chapel holds rosary each day at 11:30 followed by either Mass or a communion service at noon.

Alcoholics anonymous

An Alcoholics Anonymous group meets each Thursday at 11 a.m. at Sparkman Center building 5304, room 4309. For information call the AA Central Office 885-0323.

Newcomers coffee

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club will hold a newcomers coffee Aug. 19 from 10 a.m. to noon in the home of Kathy Sullivan, 1 Wadsworth Drive, Redstone Arsenal. All eligible newcomers and newly-arriving retired wives are invited. Current OCWC members are welcome to attend; feel free to bring a guest. RSVP to Linda Butler 890-1630. Free child care will be provided to all guests. For child care reservations, call Pam Bane 721-9530 by Aug. 17.

Federal retirees

The National Association of Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) will meet Saturday at the Senior Center on Drake Avenue with refreshments at 9:30 a.m. and the program at 10. Mike Goodman of Redstone Federal Credit Union is to review many of the services offered by the RFCU,

highlighting those designed for senior citizens. For more information, call 837-0382 or 881-3168.

Genealogical society

Huntsville Genealogical Computing Society will hold its monthly meeting at 7 p.m. Monday in the auditorium of the Huntsville-Madison County Main Library. Pat Kyser is to speak on "Planning a Family Reunion." Visitors are always welcome. For more information, call Bob Pace 881-6670.

Speed limit

The speed limit on Goss Road from Skinner Drive to Rideout Road will be changed from 35 mph to 40 mph. The speed limit on Vincent Drive from LaCrosse Drive to Aerobee Drive will be changed from 35 mph to 40 mph. These changes will be effective Aug. 20 when signs are installed.

PX news

Soon it will be time for youngsters to return to school. The Post Exchange is prepared for this yearly ritual, stocking what customers want to meet back-to-school requirements. These include the basics such as filler paper, pocket notebooks, 10-pack pens and pencils and crayons. Check the store's weekly sales flyers for the best prices and selections.



Courtesy photo

Intelligence honoree...

Dr. Ronald Miller, a 22-year veteran of the Missile and Space Intelligence Center, has been awarded the National Intelligence Medal of Achievement. The medal was presented in Washington, D.C. in recognition of Miller's meritorious service to the Defense Intelligence Agency and the intelligence community.

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- 6210 Robinhood Lane Huntsville (Across from the Space Center) 837-5859
- 10020 Blanda Drive Huntsville (off South Parkway, behind McDonalds) 881-2029
- 1313 Clarkview Street Decatur (off the Beltline) 355-5282

Announcements

Acquisition workers

Keith Charles, deputy director, Acquisition Career Management, will present his annual update to the Redstone Army Acquisition Workforce, titled "Army Acquisition Workforce 2000." This presentation will be at 1:30 p.m. Aug. 23 in the Sparkman Auditorium. Charles will discuss many topics of interest to the Acquisition Workforce including career development, certification, individual development plans and the new Defense and Army policies on Continuous Learning Points and Fulfillment for Defense Acquisition University classes. Military and civilian workers who occupy an acquisition-designated position are invited to attend. On Aug. 24-25, members of the Mobile Acquisition Career Management Office (MACMO) will present a career management workshop consisting of a two-hour presentation followed by a question and answer session. At the conclusion of this session, members of the MACMO will be available for one-on-one counseling. Acquisition personnel wishing to discuss career planning, training, operational assignments or other acquisition workforce subjects should plan to attend. For more information call Sharon Clodfelter 842-8677, Maggie Dilworth 955-2554 or LaVerne Kidd 876-7305.

Acquisition Corps ball

The Army Acquisition Corps will celebrate its 10th anniversary at the inaugural AAC Ball to be held Oct. 10 from 6 p.m. to midnight at the Crystal Gateway Marriott in Arlington, Va. Tickets are available for the black-tie dinner dance on a first-come-first-served basis at \$70 each. All members of the Army Acquisition Workforce, including those traveling to the Washington, D.C. area Oct. 11-13 for the Association of the U.S. Army (AUSA) annual meeting, are invited.

Legal assistance

The Legal Assistance Office announces its new appointment by e-mail address: Legalappt@redstone.army.mil. Please send your name, phone number and time preference for appointment. All appointment requests will be finalized through a phone call from the legal office. "Do not send any legal questions! They will not be answered," a prepared release said.

Communicators group

Universal Communicators, International Training in Communication, will meet

4:45-6 p.m. Thursday at building 5681 (PEO Aviation), Wood Road, conference room 125. If you are interested in improving your communication skills, please attend the meeting to see if ITC is what you're looking for. For more information, call Pearl Malone 851-9592, or Ira and Charles Smith 461-7101.

New parents

The New Parent Support Program is offering client services to military families at Redstone Arsenal. The NPSP is a professional team of social workers and nurses who provide supportive and caring services to military families with children from birth to age 6. These services are free of charge and include infant care classes, parenting classes, referrals, home visits and playmornings. Playmornings are held on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9:30-11:30 in building 1220 apartment B on LaCrosse Drive. For more information, call 876-2798 Monday through Friday between the hours of 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

Airport display

The Team Redstone community is invited to attend the dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Army display at the Huntsville International Airport beginning at 4 p.m. Thursday. Guest speakers are to include Maj. Gen. Al Sullivan, Jr., commander of AMCOM and Redstone Arsenal; Nancy Green-Burg, chairman, Port of Huntsville Board of Directors; Loretta Spencer, mayor of Huntsville; and Mike Gillespie, chairman of Madison County Commission. For more information, call Jim Bowne 955-9173.

Women's equality day

OMMCS/59th Ordnance Brigade and AMCOM will celebrate Women's Equality Day, Aug. 26. Activities include an essay contest, and a unit/department static display contest. In the essay contest, entries should be double spaced, two pages or less, and pertain to this year's theme: "Living the Legacy of the Women's Rights Movement." Fax or mail essays by close of business Aug. 18 to: AMCOM, attention SFC Pugh (AMSAM-EO), Redstone 35897, fax 876-8947; or to OMMCS, attention SFC Quesenberry (ATSK-AE), Redstone 35897, fax 842-6853. Plaques will be awarded for the top two essays. For more information, call Pugh 876-8648 or Quesenberry 876-9224. In the static display contest, notify either Pugh or Quesenberry about the location and point of

contact. Static displays should be in place by close of business Aug. 18; and the judging will occur Aug. 19. Trophies will be awarded for the top three displays.

Junior league

The Project Research and Development Committee of the Junior League of Huntsville will hold its annual Agency Request for Assistance Meeting at 1 p.m. Thursday at the Junior League Office, 200 Russell St., second floor. This meeting will serve as an orientation for agencies that are seeking assistance. "It is the goal of the Junior League of Huntsville to create opportunities for positive life experience," a prepared release said. "The three focus areas are: education, parenting, and teen pregnancy." All applications are due Sept. 15. For more information, call the Junior League Office 533-3554.

Outdoor barbecue

The Sparkman Cafeteria will hold an Outdoor Barbecue today from 10:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the cafeteria courtyard. The price of \$5.35 per person includes your choice of one meat, barbecue ribs or barbecue chicken, choice of two vegetables, baked beans, corn on the cob, potato salad or potato chips, with bread and beverage. For more information, call 876-8741.

International beer tasting

The ninth annual International Beer Tasting will be held Friday from 6-8 p.m. at the Redstone Arsenal Club. Tickets are \$5 in advance or \$7 at the door. Complimentary hors d'oeuvres will be served, and entertainment will be available for everyone to enjoy in the Big Spring Lounge. For more information, call 830-2582.

Sensors workshop

A workshop on "Hyperspectral/Multispectral Sensors Measurements Modeling and Simulation" will be held Sept. 7-9 at the Sparkman Auditorium. Sponsorship for the workshop is provided by the Army Research Office, Army Research Laboratory, Naval Weapons Center, Air Force Research Laboratory, Aviation and Missile Command, Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, Missile Research, Development & Engineering Center, Space & Missile Defense Command, and Communications & Electronics Command. There is no charge for this workshop, and contractor participation is encouraged. The overall administration of the workshop, including registration,



Joe Ramirez/Photo Lab

Office charter...

Brig. Gen. Dan Montgomery, program executive officer for air and missile defense, charts Col. Mary Kaura as project manager for the newly-activated Weapons System Project Office. In the same Aug. 2 ceremony Brig. Gen. Willie Nance promoted Lt. Col. Tim McKaig to colonel. McKaig then received his charter from Montgomery as project manager for the X-Band Radar Project Office. Nance is program manager for the National Missile Defense Joint Program Office.

is being provided by the University of Alabama-Huntsville Systems Management and Production Laboratory. A tentative agenda and registration requirements are available on-line at the following website: <http://smaplab.ri.uah.edu/hmsm/>. For more information, call the workshop hotline 890-6343 ext. 279.

Admin professionals

The Redstone Arsenal Chapter of International Association of Administrative Professionals (IAAP) will hold its regular monthly meeting at 11 a.m. Aug. 17 at the Redstone Arsenal Club. Chapter attendees to the International Convention and Education Forum will present the program. Membership is open to all federally-employed administrative professionals. For more information on IAAP, call membership chairman Jackie Kenner 876-8131.

Senior leadership mentoring

In a July 12 memo Maj. Gen. John Coburn, commander of Army Materiel Command, reiterated the Army chief of staff's remarks

See Announcements on page 18

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Announcements

continued from page 17

stressing the importance of leaders coaching and mentoring their subordinates. He indicated that professional development exchanges between the senior military and civilian leaders and their junior personnel should be both formal and informal.

GEICO awards

The Government Employees Insurance Company (GEICO) has announced its 12th annual Military Service Awards Program. It annually honors one enlisted member from each military service and one member from selected reserve components for outstanding military or civilian community service in only one of three areas: drug and

alcohol abuse prevention; fire safety and fire prevention; or traffic safety and traffic accident prevention. Winners will each receive a cash award of \$2,500, a plaque to commemorate their accomplishment and be recognized at a special awards ceremony in Washington, D.C. Nomination packages should include a typewritten page with biographical data, a one-page narrative on achievements or services, an official letter of endorsement from the commanding officer, and an 8x10 color photo. Packages exceeding three typewritten pages will be automatically disqualified. Commanders, commanding officers, or officers in charge may forward one active duty nomination in each category to: Commander, U.S. Army

PERSCOM, Military Award Branch (TAPC-PDO-PA), Attn: Desiree Parker, 200 Stovall St., Alexandria, Va. 22332-0471. Packages received after Oct. 22 will not be considered. For more information, call PERSCOM at (703) 325-4756.

Aviation unit award

The Lt. Gen. Ellis D. Parker Aviation Unit Award recognizes an aviation battalion for excellence achieved in the areas of leadership, training, maintenance and safety during the preceding fiscal year. Finalists in each category will be nominated by major commands. A winner and runners-up will be selected by a Department of Army board composed of aviation officers, warrant officers, and NCOs. All aviation battalions of

the active forces, reserve, and National Guard are eligible to participate. Major commands should submit the nominated and endorsed battalion evaluation packets to the USAAVNC by Nov. 1. For more information contact the Commander, U.S. Army Aviation Center and School, Attn: ATZQ-BDE-O, Fort Rucker, Ala., 36362-5000. For a copy of the award announcement message call Charles Ham, chief of the personnel services branch, 842-0883.

Logistics engineers

The Tennessee Valley Chapter of SOLE—the International Society of Logistics is looking for new board members for the coming year. If interested call Jim Sharp 534-2274 or Jim Schaaf 830-3827.



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AUGUST 13TH

Classifieds

Federal law makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination in housing based on race, color, religion or national origin. The Redstone Rocket will not knowingly accept advertising that is in violation of the law, and readers and advertisers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this paper are available on an equal opportunity basis. According to the Inspector General, the use of office phone numbers in classified advertising is contrary to regulation. Please submit home phone numbers only.

★ AUTOS/TRUCKS

1996 GMC Subaru, black/tan leather, 54,000 miles, SLT package, CD, rear air, 3rd seat, towing package. \$23,200. 731-1713 x 238

1994 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo. 4 wheel drive, auto, power windows and locks. 120,000 miles. \$9,250. 551-1617

1994 GMC Sierra 1500 Pickup, V-6, Auto, Air, Cassette, Teal Green, SWB, Day 864-7052 / 512-3600 Pager

1993 Mazda 626 ES, V6, 5 speed, allpower, super reliable! 99,000 miles. \$5,590. 830-6753

'91 Buick Regal Limited Edition, Excellent Condition, Fully Loaded, \$4500. 461-8682

1989 Dodge Daytona CS Turbo. Some assembly required, Battery not included. \$750 As is. 883-6115

1989 Dodge Caravan Service truck. Runs great. Cold air, cargo bay/ladder racks, New tires, \$3,600. 828-5327 or 797-8124

'89 Red Camaro RS, V8, automatic, t-tops, 105,000 miles. Well kept. \$3,800 obo. 880-1511, beep 517-0743

1989 Acura Integra LS hatchback/ automatic/ cruise/ moonroof/ new tires. 129,000 miles. \$3,750. 722-8179

1988 GMC Sierra SLE Pickup SWB, 350 V8 automatic, loaded, excellent condition. Must see. \$5,900. 461-7523

1987 Mercedes 300 SDL Turbo Deisel, AM FM Stereo w/10 CD Changer, All maint records, Amsoil oil, \$13,000. 656-7054

'84 Buick Century Limited Edition, V6, 78,000 original miles, \$2600 or best offer. 837-6292 or pager 720-8204

'67 VW Bus popup top, engine, good condition, trans needs work. Good fixer upper. \$1750 obo. W-544-3346 H-539-3284

Moving, must sell one of 3: '91 Nissan Stanza, '88 Toyota Subra, '91 Chevy S-10, 4x4, ext. p/u. Great cars. Call 650-5666

2 Firestone raised white letter tires with deep tread. P235-75R15 \$35. Call after 6 p.m. 881-6464

1990 White Grand AM, 4cyl. AC, sunroof, 108,000 miles \$3500. call 723-4090.

'83 CJ7, 6 cyl, 5 speed 3 tops, many new parts, \$4250. After 6 p.m. 379-3363

★ BOATS/RV

'89 Catalina 25' 150 Genoa w/roller furl, bimini, OB, head, MW, exc. cond. freshwaster only. \$10,500 obo. 883-4118.

For Sale - 1996 Travel Trailer, 30ft. Sea Hawk - Very clean, good condition \$10,000 881-2076

Sailboat: Cal 2-27 diesel engine, Roller furl, VHF, Head w/shower, stove, H-C water. G'Ville, \$14,900. 461-7796

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1997 SeaRay 175 Fish/Ski Boat has trolling motor, bimini top, fish deck, ski tripod, low hours, 115 Mercury. \$11,500 232-9536

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Entertainment Center, Cherry, 53" tall, 56" wide, excellent condition, 885-0436

Intel Pentium 200 MMX, 64 MB Ram, Monitor, 2.5 GB Hard Drive. 56K Modem, \$550. 464-9181

Lawn Tractor By MTD; 16HP Twin Cyl Briggs & Stratton; 42" cut, 7spd on-the go; Approx 3 yrs old; \$675. 885-4359

Longaberger/ Amish Bus Tour, Oct 13-16 Ladies Only. Call for details 536-1345

Longaberger new '96 Community combo basket \$100. Camel colored couch & loveseat, good condition \$375. 883-1510

Packard Bell PC 486SX, 4MB RAM 8K8 internal cache, 3.5" 1.44MB & 5.25 bps internal modem \$150 obo. 851-6581

STL Rams football tickets, 2 each, \$35. vs. San Diego, August 28, End Zone, 14 rows from the field. 880-0317

For Sale: Yamaha Snare Drum Student Kit, Model SD225. \$80. 880-7352

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Free: Gray Female Kitten, 2 1/2 mo old, Children allergic, 461-0540

Oriental Furniture, portable rosewood bar, \$800. 574-5944

White Band Shoes, size 9 1/2 medium, slightly used. \$12 Call 882-0173

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