

Redstone Rocket

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Summit tackles education issues for military children



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

RANKING EDUCATION ISSUES— Maj. Michael Newell, ACS education committee chairman, attended an Army education summit last month to prioritize the educational needs of military children from a global view. He and Ann Cooper, manager, ACS Exceptional Family Member Program, discuss the Army's top 10 issues list.

Army wants level playing field for military children's education

By SANDY RIEBELING
Staff writer

Switching schools can be a traumatic experience for a child. For military children, it's a way of life. But it's costing them.

Besides the emotional upheaval military children face when they have to pack up and move, there is an educational cost that can affect participation in school sports, and academic clubs, college scholarship opportunities, extracurricular activities; and even graduating on time.

"Education for military children has become a pressing issue," Maj. Michael Newell, Army Community Service education committee chairman, said. "It's becoming a retention issue for soldiers. They want a good education for their children."

It's an issue the Army is beginning to address, through education issue studies and most recently, the Army Education Summit, held in Alexandria, Va., July 25-28. Newell, along with Lee McAllister, principal, J.E. Williams Elementary and Technology Middle School, attended the summit to present issues from Redstone and to participate in the discussion and ranking of Army education issues around the world.

The purpose of the Army Education Summit was to identify and prioritize the top education issues Army families are facing. The final list of top 10 education concerns and suggested actions, from highest to lowest priority were:

1. Acceptance of grades, grading scales, and tests of transferring students from previous school;

2. Graduation requirements— reduce obstacles to high school graduation for

See Education on page 7

Army center handles civilian benefits on Web or by phone

Sept. 11 marks transition for South Central region

By BARBARA FILBERT
CPOC Management Agency

ABERDEEN PROVING GROUND, Md.— Civilian employees serviced by the South Central Civilian Personnel Operations Center will soon be able to change their benefits, such as health and life insurance, over the phone or on the Web, as the local advisory centers transfer many services to the Army Benefits Center for Civilians, or ABC-C.

The benefits center, located at Fort Riley, Kan., will begin providing automated services for retirement, life insurance, health benefits, survivor benefits, and the Thrift Savings Plan to civilian employees throughout the South Central Region on Sept. 11.

"It means just the benefits function is being centralized," Don Dixon, chief of

customer support B in the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center at Redstone Arsenal, said. "There's still hundreds of functions that the CPACs and CPOCs do. It's just that one function is being centralized."

Redstone Arsenal civilian personnel officials plan to assist workers in the transition over several months.

"It means just the benefits function is being centralized. There's still hundreds of functions that the CPACs and CPOCs do."

— Don Dixon
Civilian Personnel Advisory Center

The ABC-C opened for five of the seven stateside regions earlier this year and currently services more than 115,000 Army civilians. With addition of the South Central region, it will add to its service area more than 30,000 employees working at installations and activities from Missouri to northern Alabama to Louisiana.

See Benefits on page 14

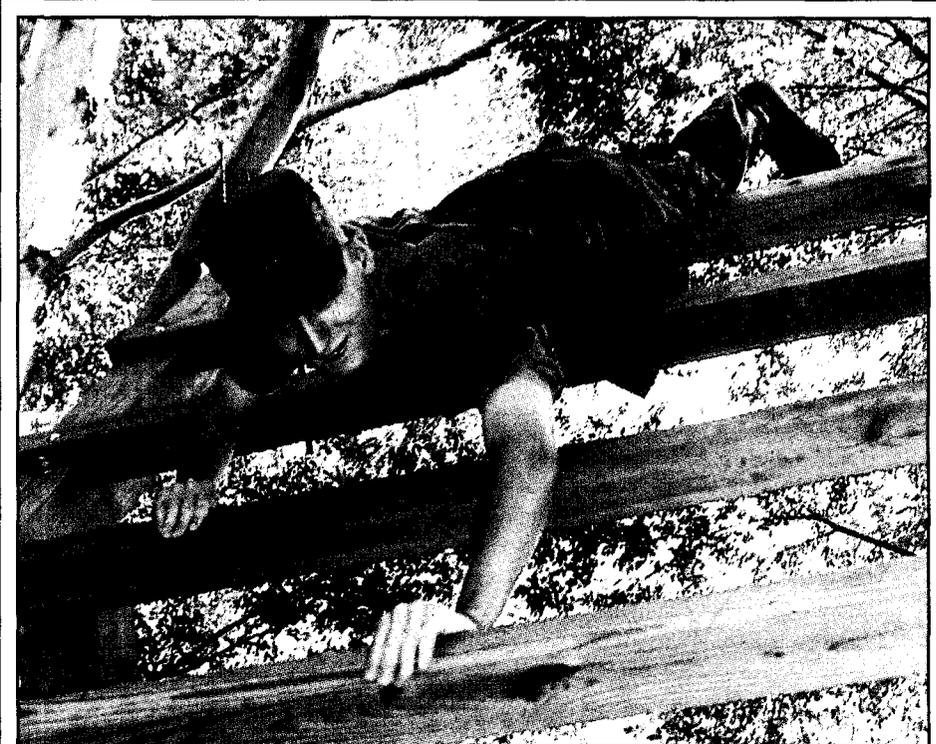


Photo by Sandy Riebeling

Heads up

This obstacle called the Reverse Climb was created to build upper body strength, coordination and confidence. PFC Michael Gidding Jr. from C Company, 832nd Ordnance Battalion called it a challenge. See obstacle course story on page 10.

Patriot, MEADS join forces
Projects unite

4

EOD retains softball crown
Gators romp

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Teen uses Red Cross training
Life saver

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Taking issue with road widening

A few weeks ago the Redstone Rocket had an article concerning the widening of Martin Road to four lanes at a cost of millions. The article quoted people giving the advantages in doing so such as "great for families" and "expediting traffic."

Martin Road has been more than adequate for many decades and handled with ease many more hundreds of vehicles with traffic regulated just as it is today; two lanes one way east in the mornings and two lanes one way west in the afternoons.

During the Vietnam War and the NASA Apollo Program, there were thousands more people stationed and working out here than there are now, and traffic rolled along smoothly at an adequate speed.

At present, the Army and NASA are undergoing reduction in strength and Martin Road still has no traffic problems. Why spend millions now?

Rich Brayton
Huntsville

Editor's note: Redstone Arsenal Support Activity provided the following response. "The State of Alabama is currently working to widen Martin Road to four lanes from Memorial Parkway to Patton Road. This project is being accomplished with funds from the State of Alabama Highway Department. The widening of Martin Road will solve two concerns; the first is safety. The directional traffic flow that is used to control congestion during peak traffic hours is in direct conflict with all known safety and operating procedures for roadways. Widening Martin Road will provide two lanes of traffic each way at all times. The second concern is the additional traffic flow that will be created from the construction of the Von Braun Complex. The first phase will add 800 personnel to the Martin Road administrative corridor. The additional lanes will help move traffic into and out of the Martin Road area at an acceptable level of service."

Point made about broken needle

After reading the letter (Aug. 16) about the broken off hypodermic needle in the pork steak, I feel like there is a simple explanation. There was probably neither sabotage nor vandalism motive involved. Most pork and beef producers today raise their animals in crowded conditions that encourage disease, and they often use growth hormones to allow faster delivery to the market. Hypodermic needles are used to inject antibiotics and hormones. Because these animals are not necessarily willing participants to these operations, they tend to wiggle and jump

about. Such activities could easily cause one of these needles to break off in the flesh, perhaps months prior to slaughter time. Since the stainless steel is fairly inert, that portion could be retained within the carcass indefinitely. Such things are what we must contend with in our fast-paced society, unless we want to take other actions. Some obvious solutions to such problems are: quit eating meat, raise your own, or buy only meat that can be certified as antibiotic and hormone free.

Mike Wahl
Redstone Technical Test Center

No hurry for trade pact with Vietnam

As an American taxpayer and voter, I would like to request each member of the Congress to demand Vietnam through U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and U.S. Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky a full and thorough accountability of our American

Prisoners of War (POWs) and Missing in Actions (MIAs) in Vietnam still-unaccounted for before approving the Vietnam-U.S. Trade Pact announced by President Clinton on July 13.

See Vietnam on page 4

Bone marrow transplant gives hope

Nicole Crawford is 2 years old and lives in Mesa, Ariz. When I met Nicole, she was in need of a bone marrow transplant. Her parents, Tony and Beverly, and her two brothers, Chris and Joey, had been tissue typed, but none of them matched Nicole. Nicole had come out of remission and a bone marrow transplant soon was the only chance for Nicole.

Tony, Beverly and Nicole went to the hospital on Thursday and I cannot imagine their fears when the doctor said, "A bone marrow transplant is Nicole only chance and it will have to be soon."

What do parents do when Nicole's family has been tested and they did not match? The only thing they can do is ask for help from a stranger, but are you really a stranger when you have the same tissue type? Nicole's family was contacted on Friday; they had a match for Nicole. Nicole had her transplant March 28 and is at home now. She still has a long way before she can run and play with children her age, but at least she has a chance at a lifetime.

I have worked several drives and since a person's antigens are confidential, I do not even try to see if someone can match someone else. I can tell you there are matches being found. In the drive in Athens, they did not find Jacque a match. They were hopeful they had her a match, but one that was tested in Athens received



Courtesy photo

NICOLE CRAWFORD

a call that he might match a 4-year-old girl.

The bone marrow transplant is not always successful because sometimes the person needing the transplant is too weak. I have been told that the family can accept death a little easier if they have given their loved one a chance with a bone marrow transplant.

I know some of us have experienced death in our lifetime that we could not do a thing to help, but what if our loved one could have a chance at a lifetime if we could find that one person willing to be a bone marrow donor?

All it takes to register for the National Bone Marrow Register is to give a little blood from the arm and to sign a consent form. If you match someone, then you decide if your health will allow you to become a bone marrow donor.

Jean Weisser
logistic specialist, IMMC

Another view offered on union

In reply to the letter from union president (Aug. 16), I believe that the way AFGE 1858 became the "official" union for AMCOM was a little shady to say the least. Size/number of members is not a true reason to make them the exclusive union for AMCOM. A few reasons are as follows:

Many MICOM employees were not totally happy with their representation (i.e. AWS days/hours, etc) and liked ATCOM's agreement better.

ATCOM left a lot of voting members in St. Louis and therefore the size would be smaller. Duh!

You would represent 70 percent since AFGE was the only union until

the northerners arrived. ATCOM had almost 70 percent of its remaining employees move south.

I believe that a rational decision was not made in this instance, "might does not make right." The employees are still the ones who should have been able to choose their union representation.

Do you have any statistics of how many folks stopped their union dues when this decision was made?

Why would you want a union that bends to management's concerns and not the employees?

I believe this whole deal was rotten.

Mary Ann Meyer-Schuck

Redstone Rocket

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International missile program expected to stay in step for future

MLRS project office under new manager

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor

MLRS is an international missile program but neither the incoming or outgoing project manager had to travel far to change duties.

Col. James "Craig" Naudain succeeded Col. Barry Ward as the project manager for Multiple Launch Rocket System in a ceremony Aug. 15 at the Bob Jones Auditorium.

Naudain most recently was the director for systems integration and operations for the Program Executive Office for Tactical Missiles. Ward moves over to AMCOM's deputy for systems acquisition office where he will serve as chief of staff.

"It's going to be my honor and privi-

lege to work with the international community as program chairman," Naudain said. The international partners for MLRS include the United States, France, Germany, Italy and the United Kingdom.

"I have an opportunity today to express my thanks and my appreciation to the MLRS team," said Ward, who served as the project manager since August 1997.

Brig. Gen. John Holly, the program executive officer for tactical missiles, thanked Ward for his work the past three years.

"Craig brings the right kind of leadership, the right kind of experience, the right kind of drive and motivation, to pick up right where Barry left off with the program, not miss a step," Holly said.

Naudain, a native of Huntington Station, N.Y., resides in Huntsville and serves on the board of directors of the American Heart Association for Madison County.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

CONGRATULATIONS— Col. James "Craig" Naudain is congratulated after becoming the Multiple Launch Rocket System project manager.

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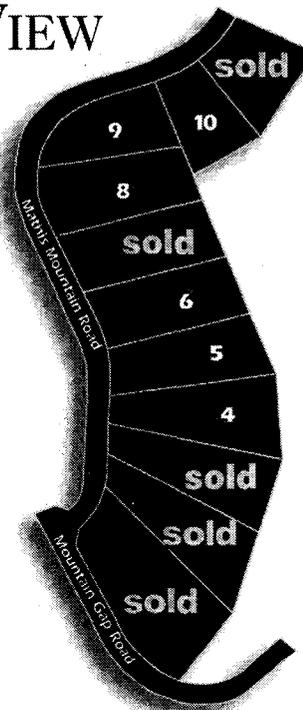


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Patriot, MEADS air defense programs begin new era as one



Photo by Skip Vaughn

NEW FLAG— From left Brig. Gen. John Urias and Col. Jed Sheehan watch as the new project office's flag is unfurled by Maj. Troy Trulock, assistant product manager in the PAC-3 product office. The Lower Tier Air and Missile Defense Project Office resulted from the combining of the Patriot project office with the Medium-Extended Air Defense System product office.

Lower-Tier Project results from merger

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor

Names usually change in a marriage any way, right?

And that's exactly what this was: the combining of the Patriot project office with the Medium Extended Air Defense System product office to form the Lower Tier Air and Missile Defense Project Office. It was not a funeral marking the death of either Patriot or MEADS.

Col. Jed Sheehan, the lower tier project manager who formerly served as the Patriot PM, stressed that point during the activation ceremony Aug. 14 at Bob Jones Auditorium. This event marks the beginning, he said, not the end of either program.

"The two programs are being combined into a new program office," Sheehan said.

The name change reflects the role Patriot plays in the two-tier theater missile defense concept and the combining of this project office with the MEADS product

office. The Patriot PAC-3 missile has been selected as the interceptor for MEADS, and the MEADS product manager will now report to Sheehan.

In the same event, Lt. Col. Douglas Dever succeeded Lt. Col. Richard De Fatta as the MEADS product manager. De Fatta, who served in this position since 1997, is leaving for the Army War College in Austin, Texas.

Dever arrives from the Pentagon where he served as executive officer in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology.

"I promise my full support to PM MEADS family," he said. "You've been exemplary under Colonel De Fatta, and it's a great honor to be your product manager."

Brig. Gen. John Urias, the program executive officer for air and missile defense, presented the Legion of Merit to De Fatta for his service as product manager.

"Rick De Fatta during his three years as PM for MEADS has just done a masterful job in every capacity," Urias said.

"I asked for this job," De Fatta said, "and given the opportunity, I'd do it again."

Vietnam

continued from page 2

Rushing to approve the Vietnam - U.S. Trade Pact just for the sake of signing a trade deal in an election year and/or mounting pressure from special interest groups (big corporations) will rule out any incentive for Vietnam to come clean with the fate of our American POWs and MIAs still unaccounted for.

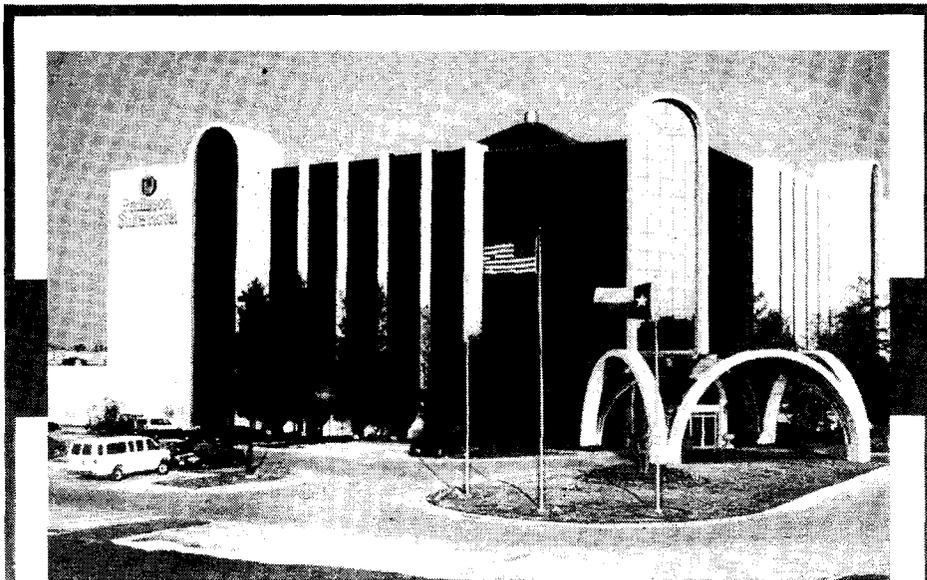
The American POWs and MIAs carrying out the foreign policy designed by politicians in Washington during the Vietnam War suffered unspeakable agony by the insidious attempts of the North Vietnamese Army (NVA) and Viet Cong (VC) who totally ignored the Geneva Convention and alienated our POWs from the country of their birth by inhumane treatment, tortures, degradation, threats, brainwashing, deprivation of sleep and food, and massacre. Is it more than fair for the U.S. Congress to seize this moment in time to do something for the families of our heroes by demanding Vietnam the whereabouts of our American POWs and MIAs still unaccounted for before approving the Vietnam - U.S. Trade Pact through which Vietnam stands to be the most immediately and significantly benefited by the trade agreement as Vietnam desperately needs the proceeds from its export to America to jump start its ailing economy misguided and mishandled by its Communist government for more than 25 years?

It would be a betrayal and an egregious miscarriage of justice to all the Vietnam War veterans for America to award tremendous wealth to the Vietnam Politburo and its Communist cronies while its ordinary people would not be much better off by approving the Vietnam-U.S. Trade Pact. Moreover, most of the members of the Vietnam Politburo

and its Communist cronies were captors of our American POWs and MIAs and thousands of civilians of the former South Vietnam in "re-education camps" where thousands died of undernourishment and hard labor, and caused thousands of others being persecuted to flee tyranny and oppression by boats with the majority only to die in the South China Sea. Why should America nurture such an oppressive regime which very possibly still held American POWs right after the Vietnam War as bargaining chips for trade negotiation with the U.S., and obtaining U.S. credits and investment guarantees?

If Vietnam were genuine in seeking reconciliation and normal relations with the U.S., it must demonstrate its sincerity by providing the American public a full and thorough accountability of all American POWs and MIAs still unaccounted for, repatriating any American POWs still held in Vietnam or elsewhere, and returning the remains of those killed in action to their families. Otherwise, America does not need any imports from Vietnam. After all, America has the best and brightest of Vietnam already— millions of hard-working Vietnamese-Americans who were once refugees or "boat people" suffering greatly during and after the Vietnam War but found freedom and new opportunities in this country! This is going to be a litmus test to see which politicians have the moral courage to look beyond the geopolitics and U.S. business interests and tend to the interests of our American POWs and MIAs and their families first before passing the Vietnam-U.S. Trade Pact. The rest of America is watching and those politicians bringing positive results to the families of the American POWs and MIAs still unaccounted for will have a place in our hearts, especially on election days!

John Yim



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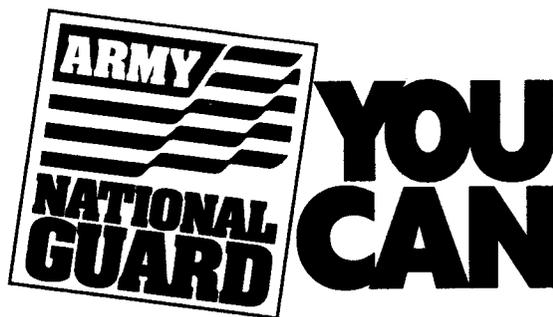
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Traveling 'Wall' memorial coming to Huntsville

Local council has season of veterans events planned

By SANDY RIEBELING
Staff writer

If you've never seen the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, D.C., your chance is coming, and you won't even have to leave Huntsville. The "wall" is coming here.

In an effort to celebrate veterans, The Huntsville-Madison County Fraternal, Service and Veterans Organizations Council have several activities planned in the upcoming months, including bringing a half-size replica of the Vietnam Memorial Wall to be displayed near Big Spring Park Oct. 26-29.

"It's a wonderful display," Ed Banville, council president, said. "There are computers on site to help you locate names on the wall. There's a little museum that comes along with it. It's something you don't want to miss."

Opening ceremonies for the event include a free breakfast for Vietnam veterans at the Von Braun Center. On Oct. 28, there will be an all-day celebration, "Welcome Home Vietnam Vets."

"The main reason for the 'Welcome Home' is because when the war ended,



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

PARTNERSHIP— Developing a season to celebrate military veterans takes a cooperative effort among civic, veteran, business and military organizations. Ed Banville, evaluation and course manager at OMMCS, discusses the upcoming veterans activities with CSM Collin Harewood, command sergeant major for the Ordnance Missile and Munitions Center and School.

there were no celebrations, no parades," Banville said. "Many of the soldiers were even looked down upon for doing what their country asked of them. We're trying

to make up for that. There will be dinners and parties and all kinds of things."

This upcoming season of honoring veterans also includes a Korean War Veterans picnic Sept. 30 at VFW Post 2702 on Memorial Parkway, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Invitations for the day will be extended to the local Korean community, bringing everyone together as a way to remember. Attendees will enjoy a barbecue cookout, Karaoke and games.

"We're also hoping to open the Huntsville-Madison County Military Museum by Veterans Day this year," Banville said. "The city is leasing some property off Airport Road for the museum. It's an old hangar with about 20,000 square feet. Randy Withrow and his wife, both retired lieutenant colonels, both were Ordnance officers, are heading this thing up. He already has enough equipment to fill the museum. We're just trying to get it converted and opened this year."

The council is involved in organizing several Veterans Day activities, including a dinner at the Hilton Hotel the night before the parade to honor all veterans. Retired Maj. Gen. Grayson Tate, a Korean War veteran who was wounded in action, will be the keynote speaker.

The Veterans Day Parade begins promptly at 11 a.m. Nov. 11 taking the usual downtown route. A VIP stand will be set up in Gateway Park where concert bands will perform.

The Hall of Heroes induction ceremony will be at the county courthouse beginning at 2 p.m.

"We'll also have some veterans' event at the Tut Fann Veterans Home, which is the state run facility for veterans," Banville said. "We have a lot going on in the next couple of months— things that the Army and soldiers from Redstone play a part in every year. We're grateful for the support that comes from Redstone. And AUSA (Association of the U.S. Army) has been really great. They've taken the lead with sponsorship for many of these events. We're grateful for their support as well."

Advanced Individual Training soldiers at the Ordnance Missile and Munitions

Center and School routinely march in the Huntsville Veterans Parade. The school will also be providing the color guard and honor guard to serve at the opening ceremonies of the Vietnam Memorial display in October.

Another of the council's activities is to find fund-raisers to assist with the local efforts to raise money for the national World War II monument in Washington, D.C.

"We'd also like to erect a World War II monument here in Huntsville, maybe somewhere near the eternal flame in Big Spring Park," Banville said.

Raising money for the preservation of history and local civic groups is very much a part of the council's yearly activities. On Sept. 9, the council will have "Trade Day" on the Square in downtown Huntsville.

"We're going to have several music groups—the Churchstreet Band will perform at noon and then the Time Machine will start at 2 (p.m.)," Banville said. "There will also be a gospel group, a British car show, and booths set up by local vendors with crafts and food."

The event will be from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. All proceeds will be split equally between the Historic Huntsville Foundation and the Lions Club International.

The Huntsville-Madison County Fraternal, Service and Veterans Organizations Council includes representation from many local groups, including American Legion Posts 37, 176, and 237; VFW Post 2702; Voiture Locale 1012; DAV Post 26; Korean War Veterans Association North Alabama Chapter; Marine Corps League, Brandon-Wilbourne Chapter; Elks Lodge 1648; Von Braun Lions Club; Knights of Columbus Council 4080; Moose Family Center 1007; Alabama Center for Military History; Shriners-Cahaba Temple; Association of the U.S. Army; North Alabama Chapter, National Association for Uniformed Services; Vietnam Veterans of America; Warrant Officers Association; Ordnance Corps Association; The Retired Officers Association; and the Military Order of the Purple Heart.

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- Six Degrees of Freedom (DOF): Simulation and Missile Guidance Control Oct 10-Dec 7 • T&Th • 6-8pm • 23010139N
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■ Army education summit ranks worldwide issues

Education

continued from page 1

example, school calendars, block scheduling and required courses, by providing clear information to parents and students and establish reciprocal agreements on graduation requirements and exit-level testing;

3. School liaison officer position—expedite funding for SLO position;

4. Impact Aid Funding— ensure the program is fully authorized and funded;

5. In-state tuition— work with state governments to authorize in-state tuition to military dependents attending their postsecondary institutions;

6. Military assignment policy— establish a “no move” policy for soldiers who have students starting their senior year or who are already in their senior year of high school;

7. Partnerships— develop strong partnerships between military communities and local and state educational systems and work toward national transition standards;

8. Education services for special needs students— improve liaison between parents of special needs children and local school officials to help parents understand their entitlements, assist with transition issues and meet the needs of special needs youth;

9. School facilities— appropriate money to repair, upgrade or build schools on Army installations or that are owned by the federal government;

10. Sensitivity to military youth and transition issues— provide training to teachers on challenges of transitioning youth and military lifestyle and provide transition specialists to schools with large numbers of military youth.

The summit actually began in May with a call for issues and volunteers from all Army installations. Once the issues were collected, 68 total, they were organized into six categories: transition, schools and teachers, communication and advocacy, high school counseling, senior year and graduation, and special needs and training.

The summit staff put working groups together from the volunteers. These groups were comprised of a facilitator, scribe, recorder, an issue support person, and 14 delegates from around the world— parents, garrison commanders, school liaison officers, teachers, school administrators, etc.

Both Newell and McAllister served in the transition group.

“It was an excellent forum,” McAllister said. “Every discussion group had education professionals, soldiers— officers and enlisted — and parents. I thought it was run very well.”

Newell acted as a facilitator; and in that capacity, he wasn’t allowed to argue the

issues. His job was to keep the group on target.

“The group worked very well together,” Newell said. “I was amazed at how much was accomplished during the summit. We were briefed Wednesday morning and that afternoon we were working the issues. Everything had to be done by the next afternoon.”

Every group was responsible for defining the issues set before them, ranking them in importance to the global Army picture, then choosing the top three to submit for final ranking. The group had to provide a conference issue paper, including specific actions to be taken, for the three then prepare a disposition paper for every topic not selected, explaining why it wasn’t.

When all the groups had their top three, those topics were put on a list and ranked again, according to importance. One of the issues submitted by Redstone, funding for the school liaison officer position, ranked third on the final top 10 list.

The AES briefed Gen. Eric Shinseki, chief of staff of the Army, Friday afternoon on the top 10 list and the top three issues from each group. Shinseki said that he was committed to creating a level playing field for military kids and to ensuring they received at least the same quality of education as their civilian counterparts.

“Redstone submitted two issues, the SLO and the matter of school choice,” Newell said. “Having a choice of where to send your child is important but not as critical as those that made it to the top. Actually, that issue should be resolved at the local level, which we are working on right now.”

A school liaison officer is a person who handles education related issues at every school where a military child is in attendance. Currently, Newell, along with ACS staff, act in that capacity, but only cover the schools where children from the Arsenal attend.

“We take care of six or seven schools in one district,” Newell said. “The SLO will cover every school with a military child in it. That means Huntsville city, Madison County, Madison city, Limestone County and probably others. Now you’re talking about 60 schools in four or five districts. It’s a full-time job.”

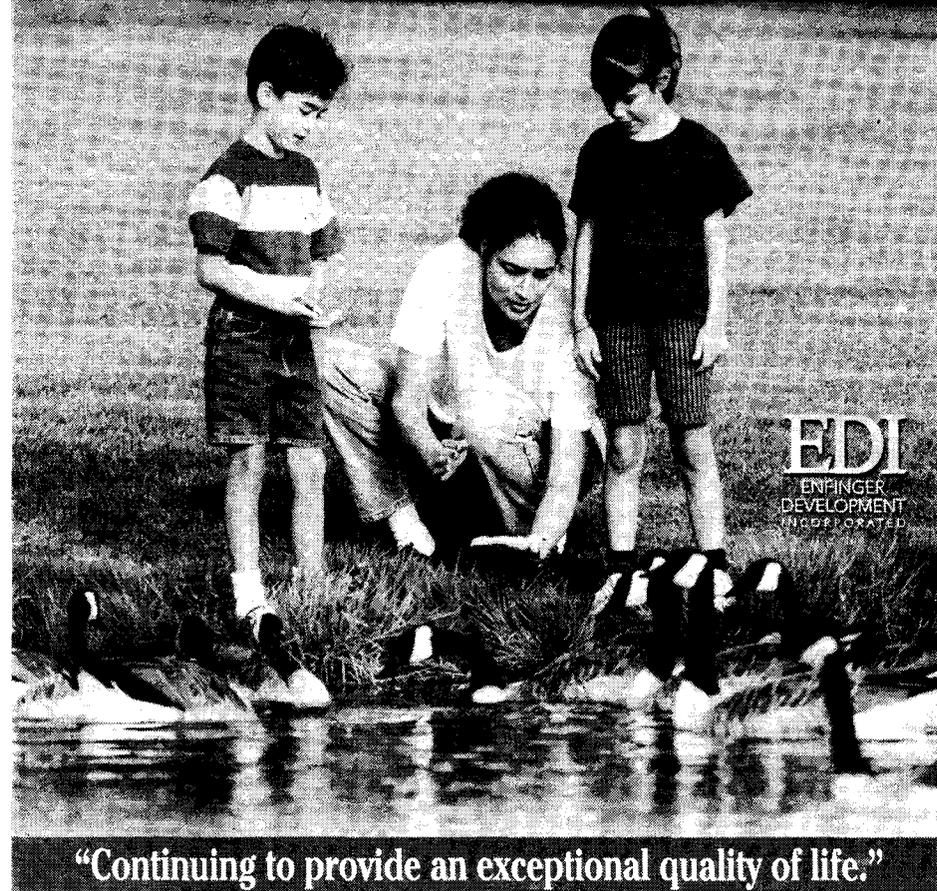
Funding for a SLO has been approved for FY ‘02. Until then, Newell will continue in his abbreviated SLO role, and encourages military parents with educational issues to come and talk to the committee.

“The sooner we know about a problem or issue, the better,” he said. “We’ll work with the parents to get it resolved.”

The next education committee meeting is Sept. 6 at noon at ACS on Honest John Road. The meetings last no more than an hour.

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Two project officers take center stage for logistics excellence



Photo by Skip Vaughn

SHARING MEMORIES— From left Mark Hudgins and O.V. Bonner talk with Michael Hartwell, who recognized their work as project officers for the Logistics Centers of Excellence.

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor

Leave it to a logistics guy to deliver a memorable line during an otherwise routine awards ceremony.

"I'm glad we're not in the French army, I would have to kiss him," Michael Hartwell said while presenting the Commander's Award for Civilian Service to O.V. Bonner. Hartwell, director of Air Defense Missile Directorate at IMMC, presented the same award to Mark Hudgins.

Bonner and Hudgins were recognized Aug. 16 for their work in that directorate as project officers for the Logistics Centers of Excellence since 1998. These are Army

Materiel Command field support centers located both stateside and overseas.

The two honorees are moving to other jobs. Bonner has accepted a promotion as leader of the logistics metrics team in the Logistics Support Directorate, also within the Integrated Materiel Management Center. Hudgins will become chief of material management center at the North Atlantic Supply and Maintenance Organization in Capellen, Luxembourg.

"It's been a long hard ride and I'm glad I was a part of it," Bonner said.

"I'd like to take the opportunity to say thanks to everybody here," Hudgins said. "I hope to see a lot of you again because it's my intent to come back."

SMDC establishes center for technology efforts

The Space and Missile Defense Command has established a new major subordinate element, the Office of Technical Integration and Interoperability, or OTII. Bill Reeves, head of SMDC's Weapons Directorate and a member of the Senior Executive Service, has been detailed to lead this effort along with other people from SMDC and the Program Executive Office for Air and Missile Defense.

The broad charter of this office is to perform the critical function of identifying technology efforts within Department of Defense and industry. The office will also focus on and leverage ongoing and projected technology efforts in missile defense and space.

OTII will serve as an outreach center to other Army agencies, other DoD organizations, other national agencies, and industry at large. The director of OTII is responsible for providing the com-

manding general a prioritized technical road map by which the command can execute key aspects of its strategic plan.

In addition, the OTII will act as the support center and subject matter expert in support of the newly created Single Integrated Air Picture Systems Engineer Task Force. The OTII director is responsible to coordinate the Army's technical integration and interoperability solutions, coordinate emerging and changing theater air and missile defense requirements and make key recommendations on priorities and resource allocations.

In both capacities, the OTII director will report directly to SMDC's commanding general and the deputy commanding general for acquisition. The OTII is a special MSE, similar to that of the TRADOC Systems Manager Office, with broad coordinating and integrating responsibilities across the command.

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Constructing obstacle course gives soldiers workout.



Photo by Sandy Riebeling
BALANCE BEAM— PFC Michael Gidding Jr. from C Company, 832nd Ordnance Battalion gives the Vertical Logs obstacle a test run during the construction phase.

Seabees lend muscle to finished project

By SANDY RIEBELING
 Staff writer

The soldiers at Redstone are facing a new obstacle these days. It's not downsizing, budgets cuts or fewer services, but they might wish it were after they see the course set before them. The new obstacle course, that is.

Just a stone's throw from the B Company barracks, nestled in a small patch of woods resides the latest and greatest physical challenge for Redstone soldiers.

"We've needed an obstacle course for a long time," SFC Chuck Blessie, 832nd Ordnance Battalion S-4 and obstacle course NCO-in-charge, said. "The old one is in really bad shape, unsafe for the soldiers to use and about four miles from the barracks. It was cheaper and better to build a new course here where the soldiers can get to it whenever they want."

Working off the plans for the existing obstacle course at Fort Benning, Ga., seven obstacles were chosen for the Redstone course: balance logs; vertical logs; 6-foot incline wall; swing, stop and jump; reverse climb; a row of six 4-foot hurdles; and the Tarzan, a 40-foot row of monkey bars, 8 feet off the ground.

"We wanted the course to be challenging but not drastically dangerous for the soldiers," Blessie said. "We're installing safety features such as sand at the base of some obstacles and padding for the poles to minimize the threat of injury."

The site was selected because of its close proximity to the AIT soldier barracks and the trees provide protection from extreme weather conditions.

"We didn't cut down any trees for this project," Blessie said. "We had a study done to assure there would be no adverse effect to the environment."

To keep construction costs down, project coordinators enlisted the help of the Naval Mobil Construction Battalion-24, a reserve unit with a Readiness Support Site located just outside the Arsenal gates. Seabees from around the Southeast converged on Redstone for their annual two weeks of training.

"It was either this or the Bahamas," Daniel Brown, equipment operator, NMCB-24, said, referring to the work his

unit is doing on the new obstacle course. "Actually, I've enjoyed the work out here."

The Seabees had a crew of six working at the obstacle course site and another crew of 4-8 building a tunnel at the Explosive Ordnance Device school at the south end of the Arsenal. Several soldiers from the 832nd. assisted the construction crew during the 10-day operation.

"I've been very pleased with the progress and quality of work these guys have done out here," Lt.j.g. Charles Decker, NMCB-24 detachment officer-in-charge, said. "We bring in people from all over that have never worked together, to knock out this type of project. It's a testament to their skill, professionalism and to the Seabees in general."

"We're grateful for all the support we've gotten," Maj. Bryan Read, 832nd Battalion executive officer, said. "We brought out the crew and staked out the site Aug. 6. The next day, the crew was out

See Obstacle on page 11



Photo by Sandy Riebeling
HAMMER TIME— With the help of Navy Seabees, it took only 10 days to construct the seven-obstacle course located in a wooded area behind the B Company barracks. Seabees James Harkey, construction electrician and Daniel Brown, equipment operator, were two of the six-man crew working at the site.



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Friends take care of business for co-worker's birthday

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor

Jane Frazier didn't know what to think when she arrived at work in the Acquisition Center.

There were black balloons, signs and a cake with a buzzard on top. Her dear friends and co-workers in the business management office decorated her desk for Aug. 16 in preparation of her 50th birthday Aug. 19.

"I love my friends. I love them so much, some of this stuff I have to hide," Frazier said of some of the more risqué messages. "You ought to hear the birthday songs they left me."

Her favorite was one of the signs over her desk: "You may be getting older, but you can refuse to grow up!"

"It's true," Frazier, a procurement analyst, said. "I will never grow up. I don't intend to, I haven't this far and I never

will."

The decoration project was a group effort by her co-workers.

"I hope Jane doesn't save all these decorations for my 40th birthday next year,

because she's already threatened me with it," procurement analyst Sharon Nolen said. Someone asked Frazier, "Do you feel special?"

"I feel 50," she replied.

■ Soldiers, Seabees overcome construction obstacle

Obstacle

continued from page 10

here digging holes. They'll finish tomorrow afternoon (Aug. 16). The Seabees have done a tremendous job."

While the actual construction began only two weeks ago, planning for the \$15,000 project began last fall after a visit from Robert Seager, assistant deputy chief of staff, Training and Doctrine Command. Seager met with Col. Stephen Taylor, commandant of the Ordnance Missile and Munitions Center and School, George Benzenhafer, assistant commandant, OMMCS, and Maj. Scott Hoffmann, who was then the 832nd. Battalion executive officer.

"Maj. Hoffmann really spearheaded the effort after the meeting," Blessie said. "I didn't really get involved until he moved over to the 59th Ordnance Brigade as the XO."

The official ribbon cutting for the course hasn't been scheduled yet but the troops will begin running the course as soon as possible.

"It's really up to the company commanders on how they will use it," Read said. "It will be a new event for our Milstakes competition in October. It's a challenging course. One that will build physical strength as well as confidence and boost morale. It's designed to give the soldiers a good workout."



Photo by Skip Vaughn

FEELING 50— Jane Frazier can thank her co-workers at the Acquisition Center for reminding her of her 50th birthday.

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MEDDAC soldier looking forward to his first deployment

Bosnia assignment seen as opportunity

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor

While other kids dreamed of becoming a policeman or fireman, Mario Gallardo always wanted to be an X-ray technician.

The Army gave him that chance in 1996 and he took it. Now the Army is giving Spec. Gallardo another opportunity—his first deployment.

Gallardo, an X-ray technologist in the radiology department at Fox Army Health Center, will leave in September for a six-month assignment in Bosnia.

"It's my big chance," he said. "It's finally an opportunity to see other things in the Army. All I've seen is just training posts. And since I've been here, there's not much action so to speak. I'm missing out on the military aspect of radiology."

That will change when he takes a flight out of Fort Bragg, N.C., Sept. 10 to join Operation Joint Forge, the NATO peace-keeping mission in Bosnia. As part of Task Force Medical Eagle, he will be an X-ray technologist performing computerized tomography—commonly called cat scans.

"I have full faith that the unit we'll support—3rd Infantry Division—has everything in control over there," Gallar-

do said.

He expects to return in early April to Fox where he is among seven X-ray techs, including three civilian and four military. Gallardo arrived in January 1998 and was named the MEDDAC Soldier of the Year for 1998. MEDDAC has 77 soldiers.

"I'm very proud of him," SFC Bruce Leingang, NCO-in-charge of the radiology department, said. "I gave him this mission and he took off and he's running with it. We did get a short notice on it."

Gallardo, 24, from Gonzales, Texas, graduated from Gonzales High School in 1994. He joined the Army in October 1996 as an X-ray specialist and had advanced individual training at Fort Sam Houston, Texas in 1997-98. He was certified as an X-ray technologist in June 1998 by the American Registry of Radiologic Technologists. In October 1998, he earned his Expert Field Medical Badge at Fort Campbell, Ky.

He is the youngest of five children, including three sons and two daughters, of Ben and Minerva Gallardo. All five children have served in the military at one time or another. His sister Frances, an Army specialist stationed at Monterey, Calif., was deployed to Saudi Arabia and has given him plenty of advice on his pending deployment.

Ever since he arrived, Gallardo has been taking classes at Calhoun Community College toward an associate degree in premed. He expects to graduate in another year.

"I've heard I may have the opportunity to take some classes over there (in Bosnia) when I'm there, which will definitely help," he said.

"Redstone's treated me very well. I've

had ample opportunity to go to school. I've done well since I've been here obviously. I want to give a lot of thanks to the people I work with—SFC Bruce Leingang and SFC Barbara Williford (training NCO-in-charge for MEDDAC), just to name two of the many all the way up my chain of command. Everybody's been real supportive and promised to send me a lot of packages, and I'm sure that'll help."

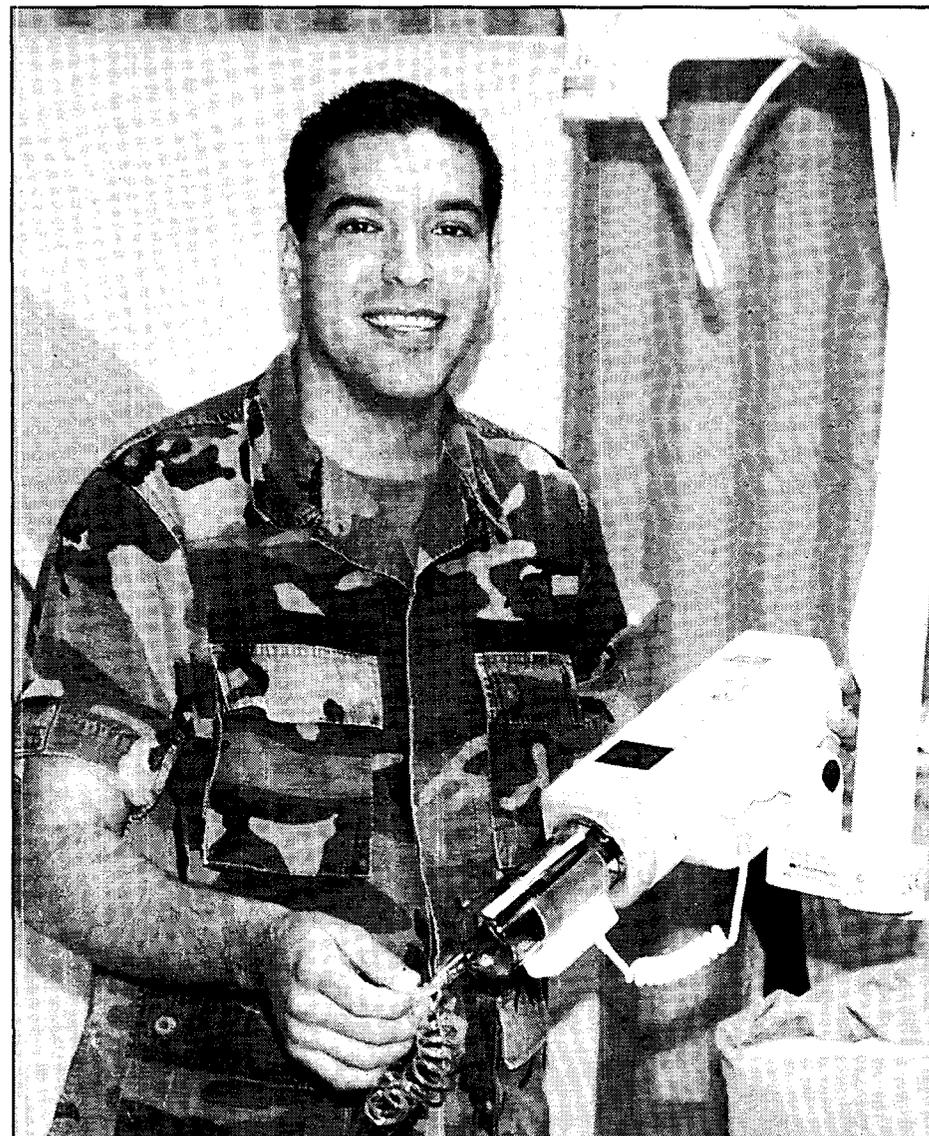


Photo by Skip Vaughn

X-RAY TECHNOLOGIST—Spec. Mario Gallardo will deploy in September to Bosnia for a six-month assignment.

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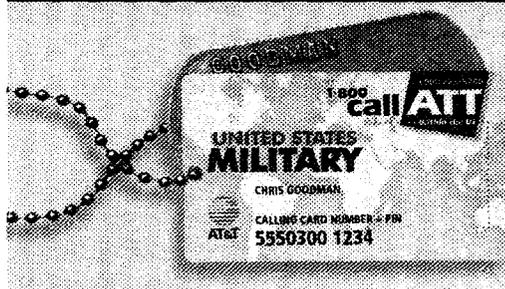
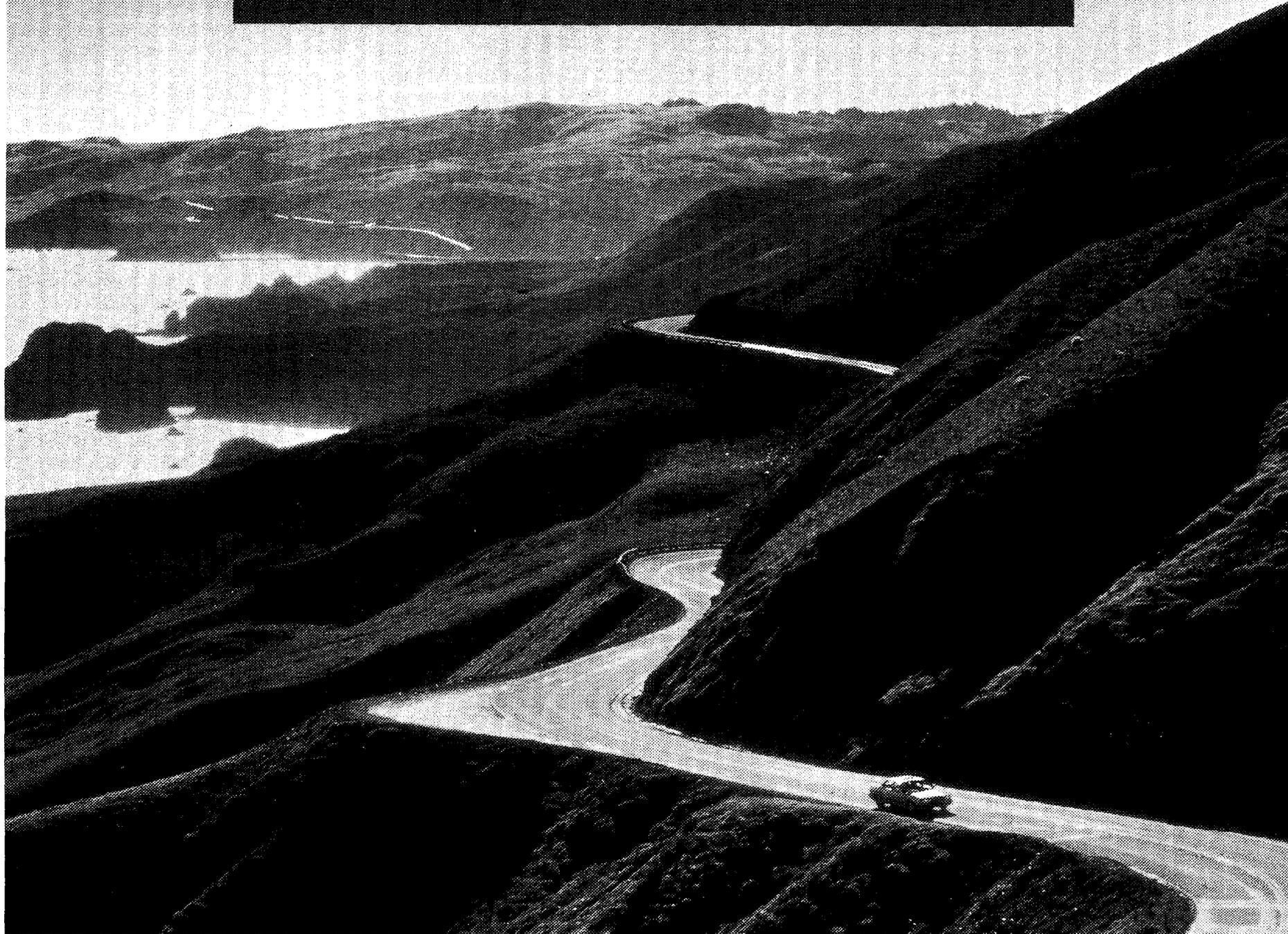
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■ Army adopts automated benefits center

Benefits

continued from page 1

The ABC-C will open for Northeast Region, the remaining stateside region, on Oct. 11. Army officials hope to start servicing the three overseas CPOCs—Pacific, Korea and Europe — next year. Once they open, the center will service more than 180,000 civilian employees throughout the world.

"The ABC-C is an effort to maximize the use of technology and promote efficiency through the consolidation of resources," said Kathy Cole, chief of the center. "It uses state-of-the-art technology similar to automated systems used by banks, colleges and health insurance carriers."

The new system, which will replace the face-to-face benefits counseling now offered to civilian employees, will offer personnel two ways to access personal and general information and process benefits transactions.

The Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) allows customers to access the system through a touch-tone telephone; and the Employee Benefits Information System (EBIS), a customized Web application, allows customers to access the system via the Internet.

Both systems are designed to guide

employees through their benefit and entitlement needs. Each of the areas has general and personal information regarding one's benefits, and allows employees to explore their options and make elections.

Employees may use either system from any location to access information and process transactions. People needing assistance can transfer to one of the benefit counselors at Fort Riley via the telephone system. They will be able to walk employees through any troubles they may encounter.

Personnel can access the Web application at <http://www.abc.army.mil>; and the call center with a touch-tone telephone by calling the toll-free number 1-877-ARMY-CTR (1-877-276-9287). For TDD (Telecommunication Device for the Deaf) assistance, call the toll-free number 1-877 ARMY TDD (1-877-276-9833). Employees will need to input their Social Security Number and personal identification number (PIN) to access both systems.

"A Point-of-Entry (POE) module to enhance the security of personal data on the Web was recently added," Cole said. "Personnel will create a user identification and an eight character password to get into the EBIS system." Employees will find the instructions on creating the new POE account on the ABC-C home page and the individual screens as they

move through the process. They will need certain personal information when navigating through the screens, but the information is readily available on their latest SF-50 or Leave and Earnings Statement.

"Now, employees will need a user ID, a POE password, their Social Security Number and a PIN to gain access to the Web system," she said.

Initially, the PIN will be a four-digit number equivalent to an employee's month and year of birth (MMYY). For security purposes, once the system is accessed, an employee must change his/her PIN to a six-digit number of his/her choice. The use of one's SSN and PIN constitutes an electronic signature and should be safeguarded.

ABC-C replaces the old way of doing personnel business, where employees often made several trips to the CPAC to change their benefits. Now, most benefits transactions will be processed overnight, and employees can verify their transactions by revisiting the automated systems or checking their Leave and Earnings Statement.

"Our goal is to give the civilian work force quality and timely customer service," said Cole. "The center streamlines the benefits and entitlements function, eliminates manual processes, and assists us in providing better and more convenient service to our customers."

The Web application has the same trans-

action capability as the call center but the Web page offers a fast, convenient and easy-to-use application with features not available through the call center, Cole added.

A major advantage to using the Web application is the ability to navigate to the different programs, receive more detailed information, and process the same transactions as over the telephone.

Both systems are available seven days a week, 21 hours a day, and will be down from midnight- 3 a.m., Central time, for systems maintenance. Benefits counselors will be available Monday through Friday, 7a.m. to 5 p.m. Central time.

"Since the center opened in January, the staff has taken more than 31,000 calls and spoken to more than 23,000 employees regarding their benefits," Cole said.

"Once an employee decides to retire, a benefits counselor will provide personal voice-to-voice retirement counseling," she said. "The employee will then complete the retirement forms down-loaded from the systems, and mail the package to the center, where it is processed."

As of Aug. 11, the center had received 790 retirement packages and 535 were completed, Cole said. The center's goal is to process a retirement package in 10 workdays if they receive the completed package 45 days or more prior to the effective retirement date.

(Editor's note: Skip Vaughn localized this article by contacting CPAC.)

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Women golfers scramble in summer tournament

Fifty golfers competed in the Redstone Arsenal Ladies' Golf Association summer scramble, Aug. 16 which was a two-best-balls-of-four tournament. Winners included:

First Flight— 1. The team of Diana Davis, Dianna Wilson, Nancy Goss and Ann Means; 2. Jill Kirkham, Sally Clark, Margaret McBrearty and Betty Portney; and 3. Joy McGuire, Becky Gaillard, Sally Zavadil and Linda Jones.

Second Flight— 1. Fran Sullivan, Peggy Stanley, Julie Goodridge and Doreen Foster; 2. Bev Van Oostrum, Judy Angus, Rosalie Horton and Betty Butler; 3. Linda Leonard, Pam Bucey, Karen Bizer and Gloria Cupples.

Longest drive awards— Marie Maksimowski, Sun Morgan, Julie Goodridge and Betty Butler.

Closest to the pin awards— Lucille Johnson and Doreen Foster.

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EOD Gators explode to second straight softball title

Defending champs ride homers to win

By SKIP VAUGHN
Rocket editor

The defending champs in troop softball trailed by five runs as they came to bat in the bottom of the sixth inning.

Headquarters & Alpha Company EOD needed a spark to overcome MEDDAC's comfortable lead. What they got was an explosion.

After three straight hits cut the deficit to four, left fielder John Bobich blasted a three-run homer and first baseman Timothy Rodriguez belted a game-tying solo shot for the Gators. MEDDAC never recovered from this power display.

The Gators added the winning run on Rodriguez's sacrifice fly in the bottom of the seventh for the 15-14 victory. Since the Gators were in the losers bracket in

the double-elimination tournament, this forced a second and deciding game.

The Gators won the nightcap easily 16-1 in three innings to claim their second straight championship Aug. 15 at Linton Field.

"First game we were way down and made a great comeback and I think it kind of shocked MEDDAC," Gators right fielder Bryan Read said. "I don't think they ever recovered from our comeback. But they played a great game to start out. They had us on the ropes but they let us back in it."

Brent Bailey was the winning pitcher in both games for the Gators (16-3), and even blasted a grand slam in the nightcap. His knockout blow came in the Gators' 13-run first inning.

"It was an inside pitch and right where I wanted it," Bailey said. "And I just hit it as hard as I could, so I was excited."

The Gators' final blow came on a two-run homer by Bobich in the bottom of the third which ended the game on the 15-run rule.

MEDDAC (9-7) made a valiant run in the tournament after finishing 6-5 in the regular season. Right fielder Chuck Griffin led MEDDAC in the final two games by batting 4-for-5 with a double, five RBIs and three runs.

"We had them the first game," MEDDAC shortstop and coach Stephen Billman said. "We had them and they hit the two big dingers."

"Good teams find ways to win. And they found a way to win today. I can't take nothing away from them."

The Gators had to battle back from the start in the first game after MEDDAC scored three runs in the top of the first. EOD bounced back with a four-run first only to see MEDDAC score two in the second. Gators second baseman Kent Hamann tied the score at 5-all with a homer in the bottom of the second.

"It's tough. We had our doubts," Hamann said after the Gators second straight title. "As you can see we put 10 people out on the field tonight. EOD's a small community. That hurts; we were missing key people (away on duty assignments). We put it together at the end. And we couldn't have done it without fan support."

The Gators dedicated their win to Chuck Blessie, who played throughout the season but got hurt and had an operation.

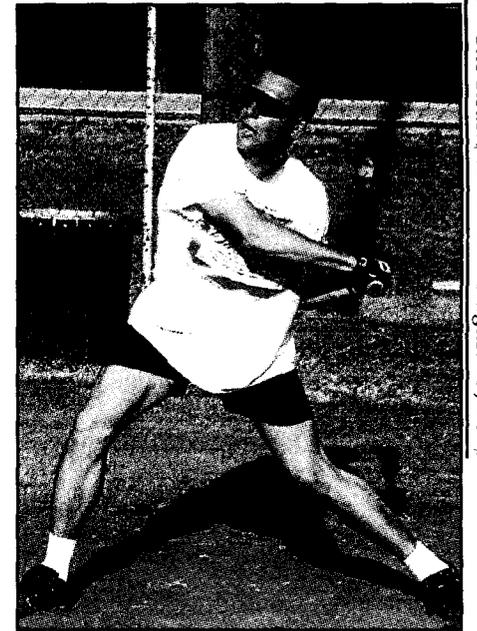


Photo by Skip Vaughn

JUST WARMING UP— John Bobich takes batting practice for the Gators before the tournament final. He slammed a three-run homer in the first game and a two-run blast in the nightcap to help power his team over MEDDAC.

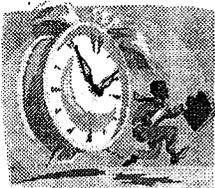
"I was really impressed with the officiating; they did a great job all season," Read said as the crowd dispersed. "And the tournament was well run."

Summer volleyball season ends

Here are final standings for the Civilian Welfare Fund Council summer volleyball league which finished Aug. 16: Team Zimora (18-6), TheHeat (14-10), Stingers (12-12), 5 Alive (10-14) and Hellcats (6-18).

The new fall league starts Sept. 27.

Times will be determined by the number of teams. The deadline for entering is Sept. 18. The team captains meeting will be held 5 p.m. Sept. 20 with a practice session following. For more information, call Mary Ann Meyer-Schuck 313-3395.



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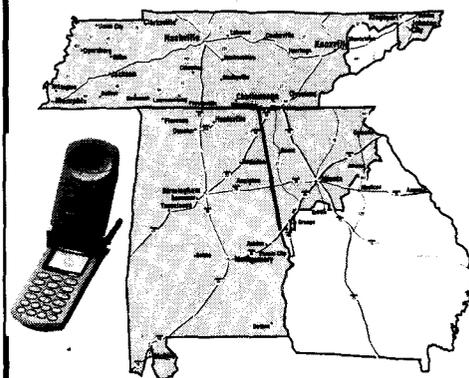
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Vacationing Redstone teen saves drowning toddler

Red Cross CPR training kept youth focused

By SANDY RIEBELING
Staff writer

It was a Fourth of July party that went from festive to near fatal in a matter of minutes. One second, 2-year-old Michael Shelton was playing by the swimming pool at his aunt's home; the next, he was laying at the bottom of the of the pool, lifeless.

"I heard my Aunt Jackie come out of the house screaming for Michael, her foster child," Amanda Loew said. "Me and my cousin and my sister were playing around in the pool when she came out. When I looked around, I saw him at the bottom of the pool near the ladder. I dove under and grabbed him and brought him over to the side of the pool."

Between Loew and her 17-year-old cousin Melissa, the two got the little boy out of the pool and laid him on his back while her aunt called 911.

"When we got him up on deck, everyone was crowding around and some guy pushed me back out of the way and I fell back into the pool. I was thinking, 'Wait, I know what to do.'"

Loew got back up on deck and took control of the situation— remembering

the first aid and CPR training she'd had the summer before as part of a Red Cross baby-sitting course.

"Everybody panicked, even my Aunt Jackie who's a nurse," Loew said. "I checked him over. There was no pulse, his eyes were rolled back into his head, so I started to perform chest compressions. My uncle started timing me. After about a minute and a half of doing them, Michael coughed up about two cups of water. I turned him on his side so he didn't choke."

The boy still didn't regain consciousness. Loew continued compressions until he coughed again and began to stir.

Loew went with Michael to the emergency room. The doctors expected to find water in his lungs but there was none.

"It meant that I'd done it right," Loew said, starting to tear up as she retold the story. "If it wasn't for those classes and the strength of God, I couldn't have done it."

It was a right-place-at-the-right-time story for the Redstone teen. Loew, who will be 14 next month, arrived at Redstone about a year ago with her sister, Gabrielle, 10, and her parents, MSgt. William and Lisa Loew. Her father works at the Redstone Arsenal Support Activity as the support operations NCO-in-charge.

"My parents came down for a visit and wanted to take the girls back to New Jersey with them," Amanda's mother, Lisa,

said. "I wasn't real sure it was a good idea at first. I didn't know how they would do."

It was during that month-long visit with her New Jersey grandparents that Loew performed the life-saving rescue. That visit to her Aunt Yolanda's home on July 3 to go and "have a little fun" at a backyard party became a proving ground for Loew.

"I stayed calm. I did what needed to be done. I didn't panic. It's great to know you can do it if you have to," she said. "I don't want people to think I'm bragging. But I did stand up during a youth group meeting and tell everyone what happened. To let them know that a 13-year-old can make a difference in someone's life. I still can't believe I did it."

Michael was released from the hospital at 2 a.m., less than a day after the near fatal accident.

"I saw him the next day and he jumped out of his stroller and ran up and hugged me and said, 'Thank you.'"

"I call him my miracle baby," Loew said. "Later that day he came over to Grandma's and jumped right into the kiddie pool she had in the backyard, like nothing happened. I couldn't believe it."

It was an amazing summer for Loew, but now it's back home and back to school for the J.E. Williams Technology Middle School eighth-grader. Loew is excited about the upcoming year as president of the National Honor Society and about her class schedule which includes advanced video production, a subject of special interest to her.

Loew's mother also said that as soon as



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

LIFE SAVER— Amanda Loew, daughter of MSgt. William and Lisa Loew, performed a dramatic rescue and resuscitation of a 2-year-old boy from a swimming pool while on a family vacation.

Gabrielle is old enough, she will be taking the Red Cross baby-sitting course as well.

"I'll probably go with her and learn it too," she said. "I was floored when Amanda called and told me what happened but I wasn't surprised about the way she handled herself. She's always been a responsible child. We're all very proud of her. What she did was a real accomplishment."

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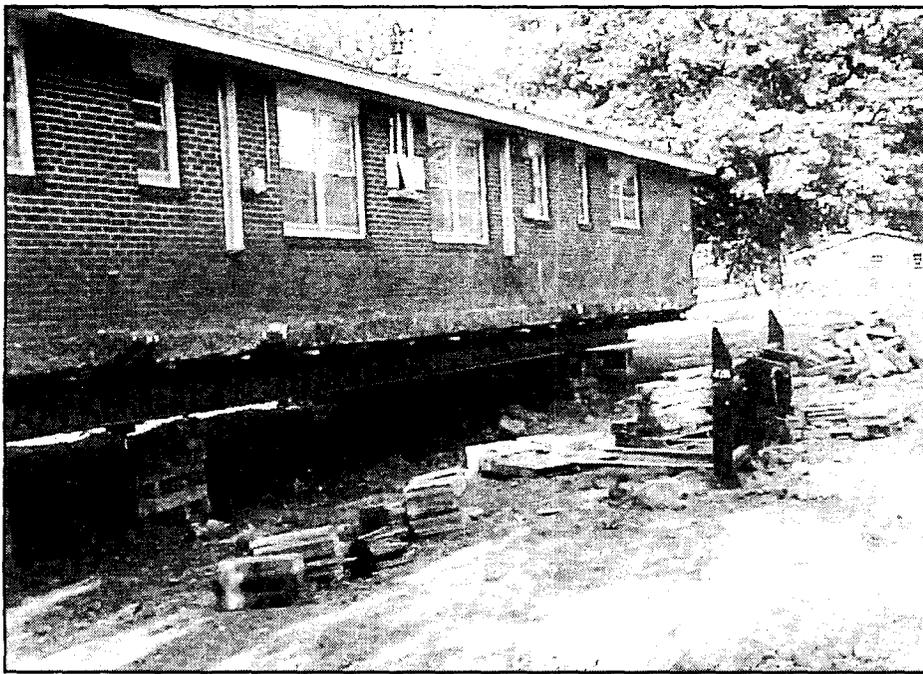


Photo by Margaret Banish-Donaldson.

DANGER ZONE— As construction continues at the Arsenal, everyone needs to watch for potential hazards, observe children playing, intercede and facilitate play when necessary.

Children shouldn't play on construction sites

By MARGARET BANISH-DONALDSON
For the Rocket

Kids love to play in the dirt, but climbing can be a dangerous activity, especially around equipment and buildings on the Arsenal. The Provost Marshal's Office is concerned about children's safety in construction areas.

"It's going to be pretty difficult in reality because this construction creates a lot of dirt, and children love to play out there. But we want to make sure our children don't get hurt," Sgt. Melynda Dugdale said. "Parents need to remind their children that those areas, even the dirt piles, can be dangerous. Construction is now under way on the Arsenal in the school and housing areas."

The Provost Marshal's Office has begun to increase patrols, both driving and walking, through the housing area. Dugdale presented safety classes last Friday at the Child Development Center and

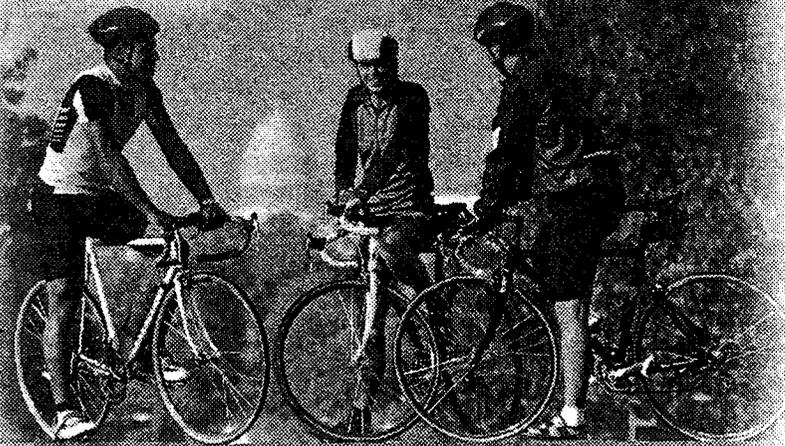
at School Age Services. In addition, posters were put up throughout housing to inform the residents about the ongoing construction.

Also, according to Joe Davis, chief of the Master Planning Office for the Redstone Arsenal Support Activity, articles have been put in the family housing area to alert the residents of the construction.

"It's not so much the distance kids fall, it's what they land on that's crucial," Dugdale said. "A fall to a hard surface— such as packed dirt or concrete — is more likely to cause a serious head injury. Therefore, parents need to make sure they keep an equally sharp eye on the children themselves— particularly those who like to climb."

If anyone sees children in the construction areas, they are asked to call the MPs at 876-2222. According to Dugdale, with everyone working together, everyone will benefit from the collective efforts.

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Announcements



Sports & Recreation

Basketball league

The Civilian Welfare Fund Council is planning a 35 and over, 4-on-4, "short court" basketball league. Games will be played at the Redstone Fitness Facility on Tuesday nights from Sept. 12 to Nov. 14. If you are interested in playing or forming a team, call Mark Sweeney 876-3052.

Friday night bowling

Friday Night Mixed Bowling League will have its first meeting at 6:30 p.m. Friday at Rocket Lanes. The signup sheet is at the bowling lanes. This league is open to everyone, including military and civilian. For information call Rocket Lanes 881-1780 or Naomi Hodges 883-2612 (home) or at work from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at 533-0915. The first night of bowling is Sept. 8.

Wednesday night bowling

The Wednesday Night Bowling League is forming for the 2000-01 season. It has openings for individuals as well as teams. The league bowls at 7:30 p.m. each Wednesday at Rocket Lanes. Each team uses four players and can carry up to four substitutes. The organizational meeting will be held today at 6 p.m. at Rocket

Lanes. All present for the meeting will be able to practice bowling free afterwards. For more information, call Paul Weinberg 885-0089.

Softball league

The Civilian Welfare Fund Council is planning a Fall Softball League. Games will be played at Linton Field on post Thursday evenings between 5:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. from Sept. 14 to Nov. 2. A meeting will be held Thursday at 1:30 p.m. in building 5304, room 4342. For more information, call Matilda Hatchell 876-1681.

Youth bowlers

Kids Day at Rocket Lanes Bowling Center will take place Saturday from 9 a.m. to noon. Ages 5-21 are welcome to join in the fun. There will be free food, free bowling and free instructions on bowling. For more information, call Rocket Lanes 876-6634.

Golf benefit

The Huntsville Association of Insurance and Financial Advisers is sponsoring the eighth annual golf tournament for United Cerebral Palsy, Sept. 22 at Colonial Golf Course in Meridianville with proceeds going to support programs for children and adults with disabilities. The tourna-

ment is a four-person scramble. Following lunch at noon, the HAIFA charity tournament will begin with a shotgun start at 1 p.m. Prizes will be awarded to the top three teams in each flight. The early bird entry fee is \$280 per team/\$70 per player which includes golf cart. For more information, call Shannon Fitzgerald with UCP 852-5600 or Angie McAlister with HAIFA 883-2160.



Miscellaneous

Alcoholics Anonymous

An Alcoholics Anonymous group meets each Thursday at 11 a.m. in the Sparkman Center, building 5304, room 4309. For information call 313-1478. The Redstone Arsenal Group of Alcoholics Anonymous meets each Wednesday at noon and Friday at 5:15 p.m. in room 11 of the Bicentennial Chapel.

Thrift shop job

The Thrift Shop has an opening for afternoon cashier. Requirements include

knowledge in sales, data entry and customer relations. Hours are 12:30-4:30 p.m. Wednesday and Thursday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. every other Friday, and 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. every other Saturday. Applications are available during business hours— from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. For more information, call Sheila Torongeau 881-6992.

Computer fair

The Huntsville Section IEEE (Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers) will host the 19th annual Computer Fair, Friday and Saturday in the South Hall of the Von Braun Center. Along with the theme of "Open Source Systems" featuring Linux operating systems, the 2000 Computer Fair features a re-direction to technology showcasing breakthrough innovations from companies throughout the U.S. The 2000 Computer Fair is free of charge and open to public for viewing from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Friday, and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday. For more information, call 882-1234.

See Announcements on page 19

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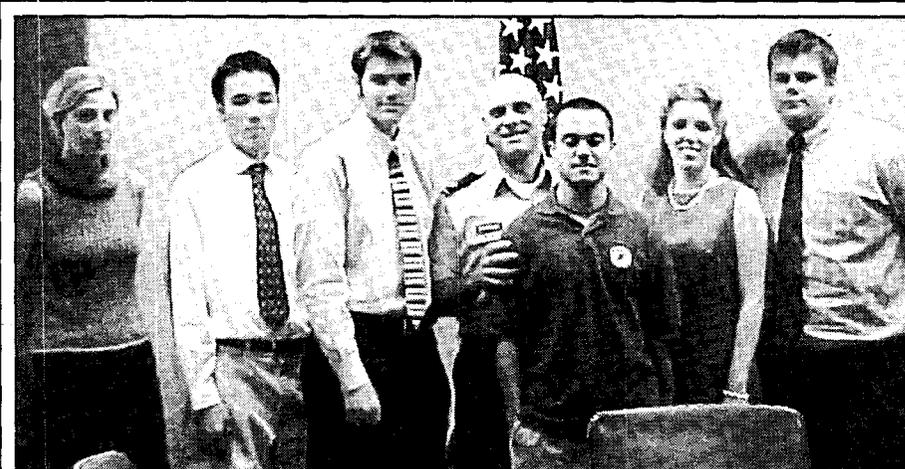


Photo by Margaret Banish-Donaldson

Scholarship winners

Col. Bob Birmingham, president of the Tennessee Valley Chapter for the Army Aviation Association of America, presented AAAA scholarships to select students. From left are Mary Kate Harrison, Scott McCann, David Brown, Birmingham and son, Jake, Jennifer Lewis and James Yeske. Not pictured are Sara Vins, Lindsey Kraatz, Laura Tsu-she and Susan Tomaine.



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Announcements

Tobacco cessation

Fox Army Health Center/ Public Health and Education Center is offering a tobacco cessation class which begins Thursday. The class will be offered at 11 a.m. Thursdays. It continues for 10 one-hour sessions over a 2 1/2 month period and is offered at Fox Army Health Center. These classes are limited to military eligible beneficiaries. The "pill" (Zyban) will be available for use. Recent research has shown this to be highly effective in helping reduce the craving for nicotine. The success rate increases to close to 50 percent when used with education and group support. To register call PHEC, Fox Army Health Center, 842-0196. For more information call Eileen Bailey, registered nurse, 842-0149. Space is limited.

Aerospace conference

Marshall Space Flight Center will hold the fourth Conference on Aerospace Materials, Processes, and Environmental Technology (AMPET), formerly the Aerospace Environmental Technology Conference, on Sept. 18-20 in Huntsville. The program features the following speakers: Arthur Stephenson, director, Marshall Space Flight Center, "Advanced Space Flight and Environmental Concerns"; Dr. Charles Browning, director of the Materials Manufacturing Directorate, Air Force Material Command, "Materials Advancements in Aerospace"; and Sam Venneri, associate administrator for Aero-

space Technology, NASA Headquarters, "Emerging Manufacturing Technologies." For exhibit and attendee information, call Jodi Weiner 533-5923.

Engineering society

A Huntsville chapter of the American Society for Engineering Management is being formed; and it's open to managers and non-managers alike. See what it's all about at noon Aug. 29 at the Officers' and Civilians' Club. For more information, call Angel Armstrong 842-9416 or Mike Lyon 876-3732.

Master's degrees

Nova Southeastern University offers a master of business administration, beginning in October, with classes on alternate weekends. A registration meeting will be held at 6 p.m. Thursday at Calhoun Community College conference room/ front entrance, 102 Wynn Drive. To RSVP or for information call 800-672-7223, ext. 5039.

Officer and civilian women

The Officer and Civilian Women's Club will have its Fall Membership and Activities Signup Coffee Sept. 12 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Officers' and Civilians' Club. Light refreshments will be served. All active duty and retired officers and their spouses, as well as all active and retired federal employees, grade GS-9 and above, and their spouses are invited to attend. No reservations are necessary. For child care information, call 722-9235. For all other information or if you

would like to teach a class/activity, call Elaine Macedonia 837-4833.

Wild weather show

Come out to News Channel 19's Wild Weather Show, Sept. 19 at the Officers' and Civilians' Club. First show is scheduled 4-5 p.m., second show 7-8. Meet the News Channel 19 Weather and News team at this free event. Learn about the weather and how to be a "weather spotter." Door prizes will also be given away. For more information, call Yvonne McGuire 876-5232.

Retired officers

The Retired Officers Association will meet

at 11 a.m. Aug. 30 at the Officers' and Civilians' Club. Maj. Gen. Al Sullivan, commander of AMCOM and Redstone Arsenal, is to speak on "The Present and Future Role of Redstone." For more information, call retired Capt. Albert Castelli 859-1340.

Deaf awareness day

Everyone is invited to Deaf Awareness Day, Sept. 30 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Madison Square Mall on the first floor by the elevator. There will be a children's poster contest, exhibits, entertainment, Miss Deaf Alabama Kathleen Ryan Peavy, and awards.

See Announcements on page 20

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Announcements

Retiring resource manager

Resource Management Directorate invites you to attend Col. Joe Young's retirement luncheon, Aug. 30 at 11 a.m. at the Officers' and Civilians' Club. Tickets may be purchased by Thursday from Becky Clanton 876-2310 or Bonnie Coleman 876-

1610 for \$10. Young's retirement ceremony will be 9:30 a.m. in the Bob Jones Auditorium and RSVP may be made to Protocol 876-7137.

Supply center

The Base Supply Center will be open

through midnight Sept. 30 for those end-of-year funds.

Korean War anniversary

A picnic is planned for all Korean War veterans, their families, and Korean-American community members to honor the 50th anniversary of the Korean War. It will be held Sept. 30, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., at VFW Post 2702, located at 2900 Memorial Parkway (corner of North Parkway and Sparkman/Highway 72). This free event is to include hamburgers, hot dogs, and drinks. Korean dancers, music, and games are also planned.

Best yards

Yard of the Month winners for August include Maj. and Mrs. Robert E. Leonard, 13 Ripley Drive, officer; SFC and Mrs. Mark A. May, 316 Hughes Drive, senior NCO; SSgt. and Mrs. Bobby N. Jones, 543-A Willow Circle, junior enlisted single/duplex; and SSgt. and Mrs. Richard Troendle, 527-D Magnolia Circle, junior enlisted/multiplex. The unit winner was C Company, 832nd Ordnance Battalion, building 3410.

Single soldiers luau

Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers will have a Labor Day luau pool party and dance, Sept. 3 at the Challenger Club. The pool party is 4-7 p.m., dance 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Admission is \$5 for the pool party, \$5 for the dance; or \$8 for both events. There will be contests and door prizes. The scheduled deejay is Dr. Feel Good from WYAM Live 105.7. For tickets and information, call the Recreation Center 876-4531 or Spec. Robert Bullard 876-7320.

Learning about change

Does constant change seem to be a way of

life? Come by the Army Learning Center and check out the video "Who Moved My Cheese?" based on the Spencer Johnson's No. 1 bestseller. The video is a simple parable that reveals some interesting issues about change. The Army Learning Center is located in building 5304, room 4319. Hours of operation are Monday through Thursday, 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., and Friday 7:30-4. For more information, call 876-1061.

Military personnel office

Effective September, the Military Personnel Office will be closed for business from 7:30 a.m. to noon on the first and third Wednesdays of every month for internal training. It is important that this training/cross-training be accomplished to enhance the MILPO employees' capabilities to handle the increased workload that the downsizing of authorized positions created. Additionally, the MILPO will conduct S-1/PAC meetings every second Tuesday of every month. The S1/PAC meetings will commence in building 3710, conference area, 1:30-2:30 p.m., effective September. This will improve communication and keep everyone abreast of issues/concerns for the entire Redstone Arsenal personnel community.

Catholic community

Our Lady of the Valley, Catholic community at Bicentennial Chapel announces the following: Rosary is recited daily at 11:30 a.m.; and mass or a communion service is held at noon Monday through Friday. Filipino mass is 6 p.m. Sunday. Weekly mass will be held at 5 p.m. Saturday and 9:15 a.m. Sunday. Annual parish registration will be held Saturday and Sunday following weekly mass.

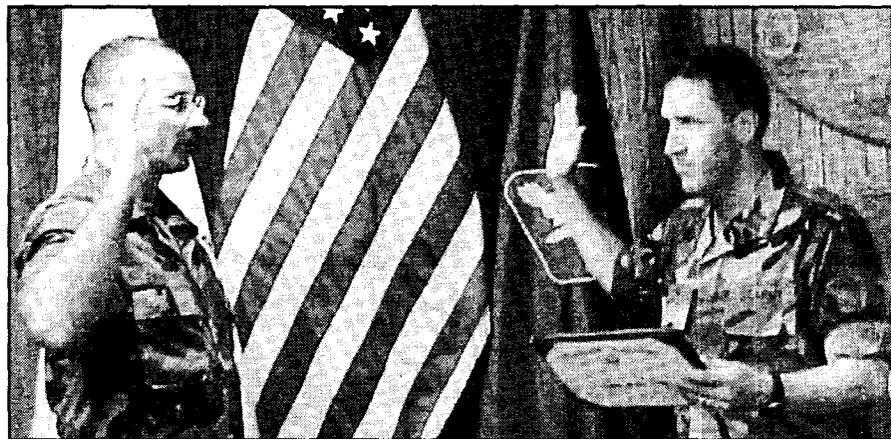
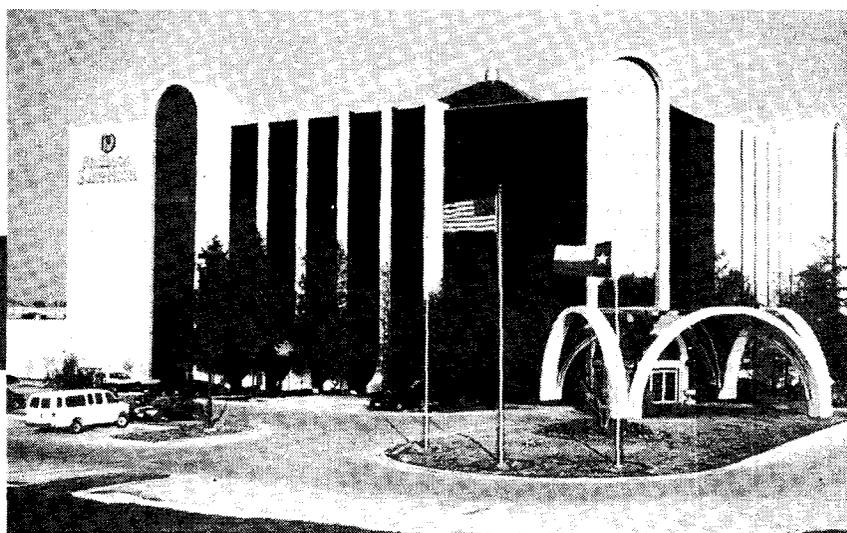


Photo by Margaret Banish-Donaldson

Re-enlistment

SFC Phillips Laboy, left, is re-enlisted by Lt. Col. John Wright in a ceremony held at Woodyard Hall. Laboy is on assignment orders to Korea with a report date of January 2001. He started here at Redstone Arsenal in 1979 as a 55B ammunition specialist. In September 1996, he returned to Redstone as a small group leader for the NCO Academy. Laboy later became senior small group leader and then branch chief for the advanced NCO course. He was instrumental in the dedication of the NCO Academy in memory of the late CSM John Woodyard. In February 1999 Laboy took over as the senior instructor writer/NCO-in-charge of the Ammunition Combat Operations Training area.



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Courtesy photo

Big contribution

Federal employees contributed \$26,917 to the Children's Hospital of Northeast Alabama during the 1999 Tennessee Valley Combined Federal Campaign. Representing the 8,000 federal employees contributing to CFC, Jan Sigman, right, Social Security Administration, presents a check to Erin Dacy and the Children's Hospital during its North Alabama Miracle Network fund-raising campaign June 3. This year's North Alabama campaign was the most successful ever, raising more than \$652,000 for the Children's Hospital.

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1991 Chrysler LeBarron, loaded, moonroof, clean, EC, 80K mi., \$4,000 OBO. Call Al at 536-3784.

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1989 Olds Station Wagon, V8, power everything, clean, dependable, \$2,100. Call 883-5837.

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Coleman Sequiyya Pop-up Camper, looks and smells brand new, heater/AC. Call 722-9590.

1988 7.5hp Mercury Outboard. Needs Tune-up. \$300obo. Call 461-0786.

1995 Mirage Jaguar Ski Racer, Merc. 2.5 EGI, 4 person seating, 95+ mph, very low hours, \$16,900. 882-8171.

1988 Stratos 266FS, 90HP Evinrude, rebuilt powerhead, warranty, \$4500 firm. 256-729-1088

1999 30' Travel Trailer w/super slide out, loaded, plush, \$16,500. 582-3320 or 527-3320.

AKC Doberman Pups. Ready for good home. \$250 each. Call for detail. 534-7484 / 885-4024

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Barbie songbird Prwhl w/6v batt, \$25. Kerosene Heat, 10500 BTU's, \$45. 100lb cement weights, \$20. 721-2444.

Battery Operated Baby Swing, \$40. Crib set, \$40. Two Car Seats, \$10ea. 776-2296

2 Bikes - excellent condition, Girl's Huffy 15 speed, 24" \$35. Boy's Murray 6 speed, 20" \$25. 379-3363

Bill Blass Size 14P, pistacchio Green linen Blazer, skirt. Call 883-9913.

Couch, Chair, \$125 OBO. Desk, Credenza, file cabinet, \$125. Call 776-4970.

Craftsman 10" Radial Arm Saw, good condition, \$350. Call 851-6111.

Craftsman 10" Table Saw, 13" Scroll Saw, Router Table. Call 461-9159.

12 Drawer Waterbed, mirrored headboard, extra sheets, comforter, heater, etc., \$150. 882-2645.

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Lawn Crypt for two Vet double marker Valhalla - old valor \$3500. Call 971-1360

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Men's 10 Speed bike, medium size dog house, \$5 each. Call 883-2315.

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2 Saxophones - Tenor w/case \$500. Alto Sax w/case \$150. Large car top carrier \$30. Computer desk \$100. 880-2202

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PROGRAM MANAGER
Description: The Program Manager provides program, technical and facility management for the operations of the University of Alabama off-campus center in Gadsden. Specifically, the Program Manager is responsible for coordinating instructional support of all courses, directing and developing non-credit programming, student recruitment, faculty development and support, administration of all technological facilities, and development of all marketing activities for the center

The Gadsden Center provides a variety of academic credit programs for the adult and non-traditional student in the Northeast section of the state. The Center offers more than 25 complete graduate degree or certification programs. Last year the division generated over 9,000 credit hours with enrollment exceeding 3,000.

Requirements: (Education) A bachelor's degree in management, business administration, public administration, education or ancillary field required. Masters degree preferred. (Experience) Three years of related professional experience primarily related to continuing higher education is required. Prefer experience in development and delivery of academic credit programs especially related to serving adult or non-traditional students.

Salary: Commensurate with experience.

Application Instructions: Position is scheduled to open for application on or about August 2000. The position will be advertised for 30 days. Please send letter of application, resume (including social security number) and names of professional references to The University of Alabama Employment Office, Box 870364, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487. Reference the position Program Manager, Gadsden Center, Academic Programs & Services, College of Continuing Studies. The University of Alabama is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

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