

# Redstone Rocket

VOL. 49 No. 50

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December 13, 2000

## Alabama National Guard deploys to Persian Gulf

Local Patriot battery reports for tour Jan. 2

By SANDY RIEBELING  
Staff writer

It's graduation day for Richard Cole. He should be sitting in a nice comfortable auditorium, wearing the ceremonial cap and gown, holding a diploma from the University of Alabama, prepared to go out and conquer the world of management information systems.

Instead, SFC Cole, Bravo Battery, 1st of the 203rd Air Defense Artillery "Patriot" Battalion, Alabama National Guard, stands at the entry control point of the Patriot site on Redstone Arsenal, wearing desert camouflage, holding an M-16, training to deploy in support of the peacekeeping

See Deployment on page 18



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

**DO NOT PASS GO**— Alabama National Guard soldiers, from left, Sgt. Kevin Slaten, Spec. Jon Maghan and SFC Richard Cole man the entry control point during a training exercise in preparation for their deployment to Saudi Arabia Jan. 2.



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

### Ro-Ro-Roll

Santa stopped at the Public Affairs Office to reload his sack of goodies. He was spotted rolling through the corridors of the Sparkman Center last week, the beginning of his annual month-long goodwill tour that will take him from Huntsville, to government buildings in North Carolina, Washington, D. C. and then St. Louis. Roy Bess has been "Santa on wheels" for nearly 30 years, mostly in St. Louis. He is a federal retiree who made the move to Huntsville three years ago.

## Drunk driving arrests have serious impacts including jail time, lost security clearance

*Taking wrong road teaches hard lesson*

By MARGARET BANISH-DONALDSON  
For the Rocket

One hears the message repeated almost everywhere: Make the right choice – don't drink and drive. And yet, every year thousands of Americans continue to make the wrong choices.

Team Redstone employees are no exception. In 1997 Ms. Driver, an AMCOM employee who asked to remain anonymous, had three driving-under-the-influence arrests in three months. She spent 24 hours in jail for each DUI, lost her driver's license for two years plus 90 days, and also

See Lesson on page 14



Photo by Margaret Banish-Donaldson

**TIE A RED RIBBON**— Evelyn Pharris, alcohol and drug education coordinator, ties a ribbon on her car antenna for National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention month in December.

Command defends its cyberspace  
Hack attacks

Online buying convenient but risky  
4 Shopping.com 11

Soldiers urged to be responsible  
Pregnancy issue 12

## Letter from general: Have a safe holiday



**A**s commander of the Aviation and Missile Command and Redstone Arsenal, my highest priority is the safety of our work force and their families. At no time of the year are our families more important to us than during the holidays. Unfortunately, with the approach of the holiday season, the potential for accidents, injuries, and mishaps historically increases. During this time, it is imperative that we exercise extra precaution ourselves and emphasize safety with our families, friends and co-workers.

Automobile accidents are an especially significant risk to our personnel during the coming holidays. If travel is a part of your holiday schedule, take time to plan a safe journey. Check the forecast and map out your route beforehand. Highways will be more congested this time of year and weather can be treacherous. Allow enough time to arrive at your des-

ination safely. Remember, drinking and driving is always a deadly combination. If you plan to drink, designate a non-drinking driver. Watch out for medications that can dull your reactions. Read the label to be sure. Most importantly, we must all place an emphasis on defensive driving and the use of seat belts. Wearing seat belts is our best means of minimizing the effects if we are involved in an accident.

A safe holiday season will help prepare us for the challenges and promises of the New Year. Our people are the most important resource of Team Redstone. Let us all strive to have a joyous and accident-free holiday that will ensure a safe return to the workplace. Kathy and I wish you and your families an especially safe and enjoyable holiday season.

**Maj. Gen. Al Sullivan**  
commander, AMCOM and Redstone

## CCAWS workers earn recognition

The following members of Close Combat Anti-Armor Weapon Systems Project Office received awards recently:  
Special Act— James Bragg and Shirley Davis.  
Performance Award— Reagor Branch,

Jerry Green, Mike Parmenter, Gene Sanders, Mark Sweeney and Tanya Thomas.  
Promotion— Jennifer Lewis, Deborah Tate, Marie Plyler and Geraldine Bush.  
Service Certificate— Jerry Green (25 years).

## Local engineering firm gets ISO 9001 certification

Mike Pope, president and CEO of Phase IV Systems Inc., a 15-year-old engineering technology firm, based in Huntsville, announces that Phase IV Systems and its production subsidiary, PIVC, L.L.C., have received ISO 9001 certification.

Certification to ISO 9001 requires an organization to meet 20 different

elements of compliance in quality assurance, impacting all areas of the company from design, development and production to installation and service.

Phase IV Systems and PIVC specialize in the design, development and manufacturing of both commercial and government products.

## Thanks from the bottom of my heart

**T**o the Redstone community: I'm writing to personally thank your people for their love, kindness, politeness and willingness to help. My husband passed away Sept. 21; and he had a full military funeral and all of your people who performed the Taps, etc., were truly a blessing.

They were professional and courteous and made me feel very proud. It was an honor to have them at my husband's funeral. Everyone complimented them.

Also, I did not know that the Army provided a casualty assistant to help retired Army widows. This was a wonderful surprise.

SFC William Barber was assigned to me, and he is the most helpful and compassionate person I've ever met. He assisted me in everything and made me feel very special. He really seemed to care and he answered every question I

had and filled out forms, made some calls, and just took over for me. He was truly a godsend to me and my family. Please give him my sincere thanks! He helped me do everything. He should be commended for going above and beyond.

I also would like to thank Ann Owens in Army Emergency Relief fund for her help, kindness and for getting me help so I could live. I'm 69 years old and cannot work and would have lost my home without the Army's help.

For all the services that you provide, I thank you from the bottom of my heart. They have made my life a lot easier throughout these difficult times. I'm proud to be an Army dependent. All of your people are wonderful and thank you with all my heart.

**Geneva Corliss**  
Tuscumbia

## Logisticians contribute to Vietnam veterans

The Logistics Support Activity helped further the cause of veterans by donating items to Vietnam Veterans, Chapter 511 at its 2000 Christmas Party today. LOGSA employees and contractors also presented 26 boxes filled with supplies and loads of food to the veterans and their families.

"This year we wanted to do something special," Emma Louise Cooper said. "We asked for nonperishable food items, children's toys, warm clothing and any used items that were clean and in good repair."

To honor the veterans, the Sparkman High School ROTC presented the colors and performed a drill for the audience,

and its Jazz Band performed the musical entertainment.

LOGSA also held an Iron Bowl contest for the "best" decorated military transport box. Twenty-six shoeboxes were filled with supplies and loads of food for the veterans and their families. The winners received bragging rights for a year and a certificate for the best decorated entry, first through third places. Chapter 511 veterans judged the boxes.

"Chapter 511 is the only congressional charter chapter in North Alabama," Cooper said. "And they service all veterans in need."

## Redstone Rocket has holiday break

The Redstone Rocket staff will celebrate the holidays by taking a two-week break Dec. 27 and Jan. 3. Our last issue of the

year is Dec. 20 and our first issue of the new year is Jan. 10. We hope you enjoy the upcoming holiday season.

## Redstone Rocket

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# Combined Federal Campaign has best year ever

## Charity contributions exceed \$1.6 million

By SKIP VAUGHN  
Rocket editor

The many charities that receive contributions from federal workers should have a nice Christmas this year.

They've already received a larger present than usual.

The Combined Federal Campaign raised the most money ever with more than \$1.6 million in contributions from

workers in 33 federal agencies in the Tennessee Valley. This year's drive exceeded its \$1.5 million goal.

"We have had an exceptional year with the Combined Federal Campaign this year," Wayne Patty, chairman of the Local Federal Coordinating Committee, said.

Federal agencies that participated in the campaign were recognized in an awards ceremony Dec. 4 at the Bob Jones Auditorium.

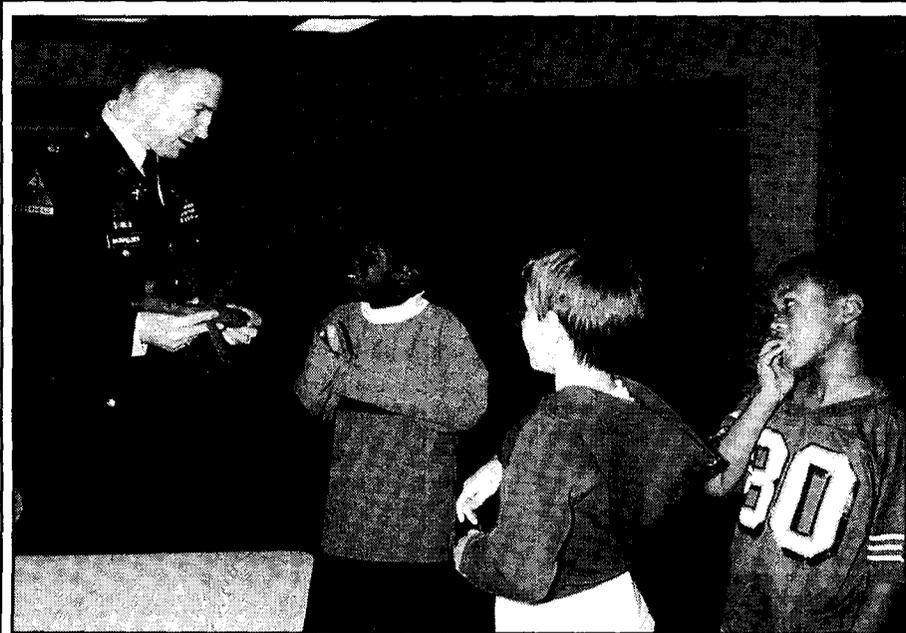
"You all have done an absolute marvelous job," Maj. Gen. Al Sullivan, commander of the Aviation and Missile Com-

mand and Redstone Arsenal, said. As commander of this area's largest federal agency, he served as campaign chairman.

"It really does make a huge difference in people's lives," he said of the CFC dollars.

After the agency and AMCOM awards, Sullivan cited Patty for his work in leading the campaign.

"My reward is the charitable agencies out there," Patty said.



Dorothy Moore/ Photo Lab

## Career day

Maj. Dean Batchelder, from the Army TACMS/Bat Project Office, took some models of our missiles and Bat to Chaffee Elementary School for the Career Vehicle Day. Batchelder provided information on the Army TACMS/Bat missile to students ranging from kindergarten through fifth-grade.



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**GREAT JOB—** Maj. Gen. Al Sullivan, chairman of the Tennessee Valley Combined Federal Campaign, presents an award to Wayne Patty, chairman of the Local Federal Coordinating Committee, for his CFC work.

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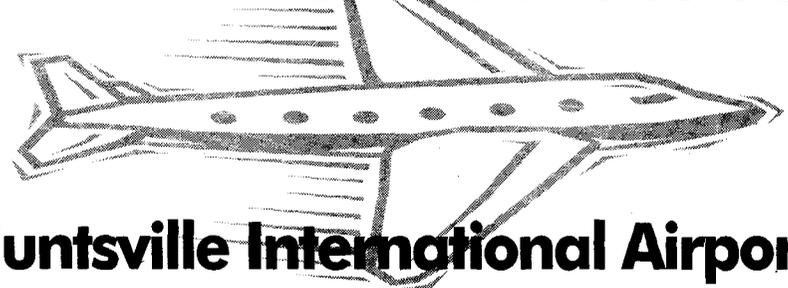
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# Internet policy disarms computer hackers

## Campus area network faces frequent attacks

By BETH SKARUPA  
Staff writer

The Internet Use Policy distributed last month is not just a list of what you can and cannot do on the Internet; it's a weapon in the Army's fight against information warfare.

Information warfare is a serious threat to our national security. A hacker's ability to shut down or create havoc in an Army computer system can have tremendous impact on the capabilities of the Army to do its mission.

If a hacker gets into the payroll system and causes it to malfunction so employees fail to receive paychecks, he will cause major problems. If a hacker is able to get into a logistics system and cause it to malfunction or even just change the numbers or zero out quantities of weapons, he will have made a major mission impact. Even the "I love you" virus stopped communication via e-mail for days.

So how can the Army protect itself and keep the hackers at bay in this ever-changing world of increasing dependence on computers and high technology?

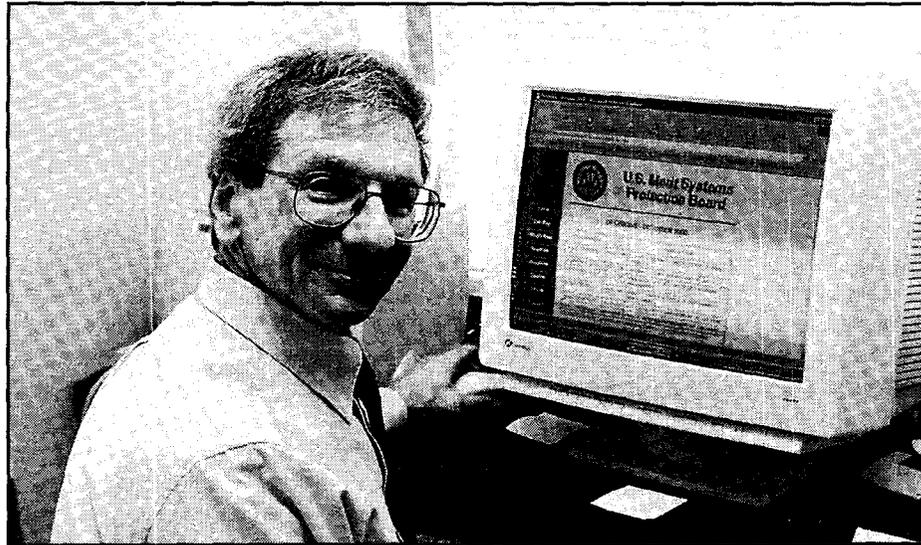


Photo by Beth Skarupa

**USING THE INTERNET—** Bob Garfield, legal office, displays the U.S. Merit Systems Protection Board website on his computer screen as an example of Internet usage that is allowed by the Internet Use Policy distributed in November. He consults the website for current legal decisions that relate to his work as a legal officer.

"We have to hire the smartest and best people to keep abreast of what's going on and how to find vulnerabilities in the system," Mike Hooley in Intelligence and Security said. "You don't know sometimes until after it's already been done to you."

The primary purpose of the Internet

Use Policy is to shut down hackers trying to get into the Redstone computer system network. Any government employee, military or contractor who connects to the Internet using any computer system connected to the Campus Area Network is restricted from certain activities cited in the policy.

"The reason it had to be done is because the various things it prohibits cause interference or security vulnerabilities to our network," Hooley said. "Basically what we found was that hackers have found various ways to get into the system - Internet chat or Internet games actually create openings where we could receive hidden Trojan horse or virus files that could attack our system. We found out that we were creating literally back doors to our system and it had to be stopped."

Eliminating vulnerabilities is particularly important because large numbers of activities attempt to do scans of the Redstone CAN every day. A scan is when a hacker "pings" the network to get infor-

mation about how the network is set up or configured looking for vulnerabilities in the system. A connection is when a hacker actually manages to connect to the network for a period of time.

"During the past 30 days, we had close to 1,000 pre-attack scans or connections from potentially unauthorized activities," Hooley said. "About half of those were from foreign sites. Because our network has sensitive but not classified information, foreign sites should not connect to our system."

The purpose of the Internet policy is two-fold: to identify and eliminate potential entries into the CAN that bypass boundary security protection and to detail what Internet activities are prohibited and permitted. Although the policy does not provide new information, it takes information from several different Army policies and regulations and puts it all in one place.

"In part, the policy looks at the realities of the workplace. It authorizes that if you have a kid away at college, when you're on your break or before or after work you can e-mail them. I guess what they're concerned with is that generally when you're at work, you're there to work and not browse non-work related websites," Bob Garfield, legal officer, said. "Hopefully, it will heighten everyone's awareness."

Activities that overburden the communications system are prohibited because they consume bandwidth and slow CAN response. They are prohibited unless they are a part of authorized training or are in support of mission responsibilities. Playing Real Audio on your computer is an example of this type of prohibited activity.

Tuning into the radio on the Internet uses up bandwidth for taking traffic in or out of the system, thus slowing it down for official business. Hooley used an analogy to explain bandwidth, likening it to a piece of pipe that can fit 144 straws in it at

See Internet on page 5



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# Ike and Tina join Supremes for IMMC Christmas party

By SKIP VAUGHN  
Rocket editor

The Supremes made a comeback Thursday at the Officers and Civilians Club.

Well, not exactly.

The Supremes did perform one of their signature tunes, "Stop in the Name of Lovc." But in reality it was just three costumed workers— Kim Lund, Reta Moyer and Karen Worley – lip syncing during the entertainment portion of the IMMC Christmas Party.

Other acts on the menu included

"Southern Air," a spoof about a hillbilly airliner; "Bubba's Heavenly Hair," barbershop singers; and even an Ike and Tina Turner performance, among other things.

More than 500 folks filled the club's ballroom for the luncheon festivities sponsored by the Integrated Materiel Management Center. The parking lot was full; and the club closed for lunch.

"This (event) is for the community," Bob Howell, the club manager, said. "We do apologize to those that did come for regular lunch."



Photo by Skip Vaughn

**BUBBA'S HEAVENLY HAIR**— Making musical cuts are, from left, Mark Moe, Tony Caldwell, John McClure and Artro Whitman.

## Policy defends against cyberspace attacks

### Internet

continued from page 4

one time. Real Audio uses up 5 or 6 straws for an employee's personal listening pleasure while other people are blocked from using those straws for official government business.

Prohibited activities also include those that adversely affect official duties and reflect adversely on the command, such as sexually oriented material, gambling, chain letters, unofficial advertising, soliciting, selling, illegal activities, inappropriately handled classified materials, threatening or harassing e-mails, or other uses incompatible with public service.

"They don't monitor overall for misuse. A lot of the monitoring that has picked up abuse of the system has been for system administration, just to make sure the system is working the way it should," Garfield said.

"Our ability to ID people going to porn sites has really been a by-product of how our monitoring system works," Hooley

said. "It's looking for inappropriate connections in or out, but when we see that it picked up something like 'sexyladies.com' we wonder how that relates to official work and turn it over to management for action."

While the Internet Use Policy was being compiled, software to block users from going to pornographic websites was obtained so it could be installed. This was prompted by the monitoring system picking up an "embarrassingly large number of people going out to pornographic sites," Hooley said.

The new software has greatly reduced the number of hits on pornographic sites and is expected to continue to do so. It is updated regularly as new porn sites are identified. Since the distribution of the Internet Use Policy Nov. 6, however, there has not been a decrease in pre-attack scans or connections to the system.

"That does not mean our policy is not or will not be successful. While we have shut down some of the ways to get into the system, others are always found," Hooley said.

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# Egypt buys Sentinel air defense system

SHORAD PROJECT OFFICE RELEASE

During the Egyptian SHORAD Program Management Review, the short-range air defense project manager Col. Robert Arnone along with Maj. Gen. Mohamed Saad, Egyptian Air Defense Forces, and Cliff Johnson of Raytheon took time to issue the contract placing the Egyptian Sentinel order with Raytheon.

The Egyptian delegation was at Redstone Arsenal the week of Nov. 13 to review their entire SHORAD program and make any required changes. The delegation headed by Saad worked long hours with personnel from Security Assistance Management Directorate, SHORAD Project Office, local contractors and the prime contractors for the Sentinel, Avenger, Stinger and FAAD C2 systems.

The Egyptian delegation also traveled to Fort Hood, Texas, to see the SHORAD systems in operation. Soldiers of 1st Battalion, 44th Air Defense Artillery demonstrated the operations of the sensor to shooter architecture. They also emplaced and operated the Sentinel, FAAD C2 and Avenger SHORAD Systems for their Egyptian guests.

The review focused on the Egyptian Air Defense operational concepts and requirements. Both delegations discussed



Courtesy photo

**SALES CONTRACT**— From left Col. Robert Arnone, short-range air defense project manager, and Egyptian Maj. Gen. Mohamed Saad hand Raytheon's Cliff Johnson the contract for the first Sentinel buy for the Egyptians.

the best way to use the U.S. SHORAD systems to meet the unique needs of the Egyptian Air Defense Forces. Understanding the Egyptian needs is the first step to ensuring that the SHORAD systems are properly designed and produced

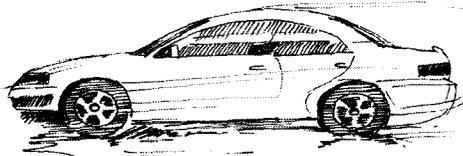
to meet the Egyptian needs. After a full week of review, both teams agreed that the objectives were accomplished and the Egyptian delegation returned to Cairo and is planning to return in May for the next Program Management Review.



Courtesy photo

## Bama fan

Alix Edmonds, 18 months, won the "best dressed" award during a collegiate Tailgate Party Nov. 15 sponsored by the Close Combat Anti-Armor Weapon Systems Project Office. The party in the parking lot of building 5250 drew more than 300 members of the Tactical Missiles Program Executive Office and their families who represented their favorite college team.



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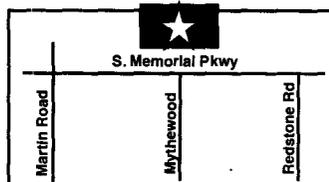
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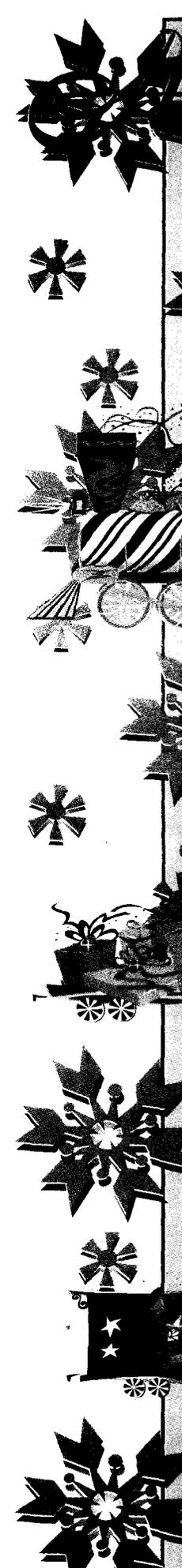
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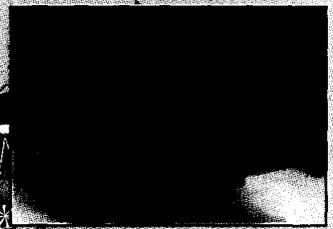
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# General's deputy: Command in good shape for Army reshape

## Resources limited in fiscal year 2001

By MARGARET BANISH-DONALDSON  
For the Rocket

The deputy to the commanding general says government and industry could not be in a better place than Huntsville during the next rounds of budget cuts and base realignments.

Jim Flinn gave an update of selected AMCOM activities for the next five years to the International Society of Logistics Engineers on Nov. 28 at the Officers and Civilians Club. His talk focused on people, budget, contracts, readiness, transformation, community and Quadrennial Defense Review/ Base Realignment and Closure.

"In the last seven to eight months, AMCOM has hired additional engineers and logisticians, and in the upcoming months we are expected to hire more because we are under-strength in these areas," Flinn said. "I think the outlook looks bright for our internal work force."

However, changes are predicted in the areas of resources for readiness in the future. According to Flinn, fiscal year 2001 is the worst year for Operations & Maintenance-Army money.

On the other hand, the Acquisition



Photo by Blake Copple

**GUEST SPEAKER— Jim Flinn, deputy to the AMCOM commanding general, addresses the Nov. 28 luncheon of the International Society of Logistics Engineers.**

Center has jumped in contracts. As of the end of October, \$43 million and 86 percent were awarded to small businesses through Omnibus 2000.

Omnibus 2000 was designed to provide the Aviation and Missile Command, the Program Executive Office organizations, program managers and Redstone tenant activities with flexible and efficient access to the best mission support advisory and assistance services available while

giving consideration to small business goals and future resource restrictions. It is a competitive, best-value, multiple-award program with a potential value of \$2.5 billion over five years.

As of Sept. 30, all basic contracts have been awarded and approximately 80 task orders completed for a total obligation of \$40.4 million. Ten of the 12 primes are small or 8(a) businesses, including three women-owned small businesses. An 8(a) business is a small, disadvantaged business certified as such by the Small Business Administration.

"I have asked for feedback from Liz Moulder on our O2K contract award," he said. "Surveys were sent out two weeks ago, and respondents can answer back via e-mail or mail their responses back confidentially."

Another area where improvements have been made is in depot level maintenance. It is a significant resource consumer, and alternatives to reduce costs were implemented with the partnership of Corpus Christi (Texas) and Letterkenny (Pa.) Army Depots with AMCOM.

"CCAD managed to turn a healthy profit the last two years," Flinn said, "and

both are financially very solid."

Supporting aging equipment continues to be a challenge. For example, of the 1,500 Black Hawk fleet, only about 20 to 25 percent are less than 20 years old. Upgrades to the Black Hawk, Apache, Chinook, Patriot and Multiple Launch Rocket System are programmed and, if funded, will relieve the readiness challenge.

Col. Barry Ward has been named the new deputy commander for transformation. His job is to give command level visibility and emphasis to all the AMCOM and Team Redstone efforts toward the Chief of Staff of the Army's vision for the Objective Force, Interim Brigade and all related equipment.

According to Flinn, the Army is continuing to make many investments which will benefit this community: the new Prototype Integration Facility is in progress; \$39 million in fiscal 2001 has been put aside for the 220,000 square foot Von Braun Complex, which the Space and Missile Defense Command will occupy west of building 5250; design of Martin Road widening; and the Army has approved a portion of the Southern bypass route on Martin Road to Burose.

## Family members find support within the military community

### Separations, information void among obstacles for spouses

By SANDY RIEBELING  
Staff writer

Stacie Bonner's Army classification is military dependent. Nothing could be further from the truth. She is, in fact, married to Pvt. Douglas Bonner, AIT student with B Company, 832nd Ordnance Battalion. She is anything but dependent.

When she first found out her husband was coming to Redstone, Bonner began researching the area, checking the job market and making arrangements to accompany her husband when the time came.

"The Army initially resisted the idea of me coming here," Bonner said, "but that wasn't an option. Doug was going to be here 44 weeks. We're a family. I was coming one way or another."

And she did. Bonner didn't wait for permission. She and the couple's son, 15-

month-old Alex, moved to Huntsville in July, and lived off post. The Bonners put in a request for housing, which was granted just two weeks ago. Pvt. Bonner lived in the barracks until a few weeks before the family moved on post.

"We planned. We saved. We knew it wasn't going to be easy. There's a reason the Army discourages families during AIT. The hours are crazy. We hardly ever see each other but it's better than nothing."

Keeping the family together was just one of Bonner's goals.

"I wanted to know everything about Redstone, the Army, how things worked, who to go to when I had questions or needed help. Both my dad and grandpa were retired Air Force so I knew a little about military life but it was my grandmother who told me about ACS. The Air Force didn't call it that but she knew the Army had an organization that could help."

See Family on page 16

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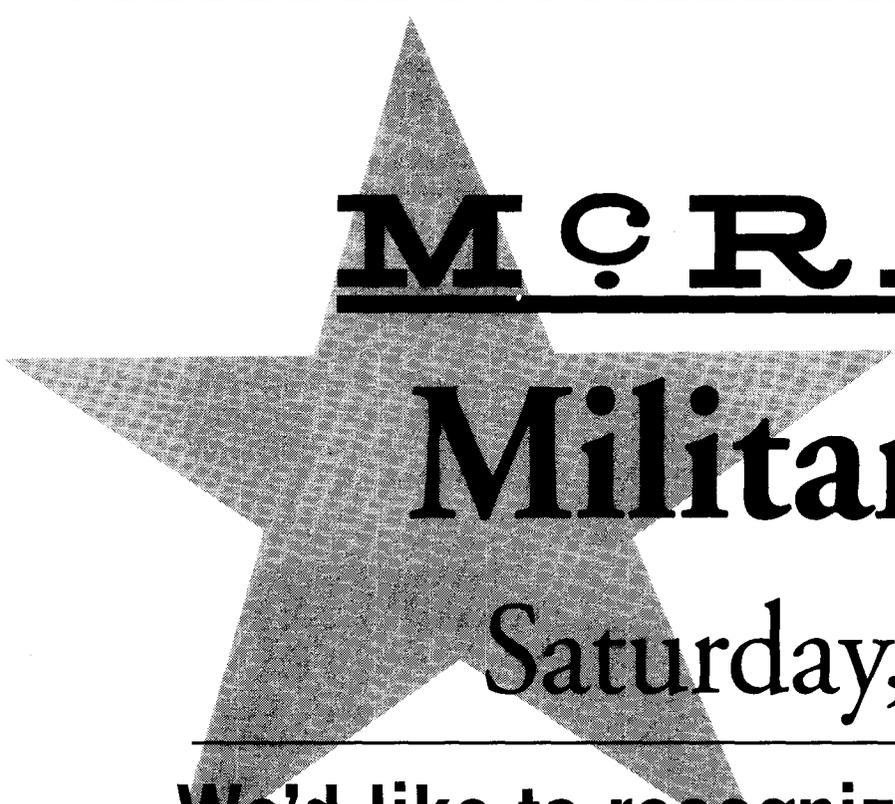
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# Chapel performs special services during holiday season

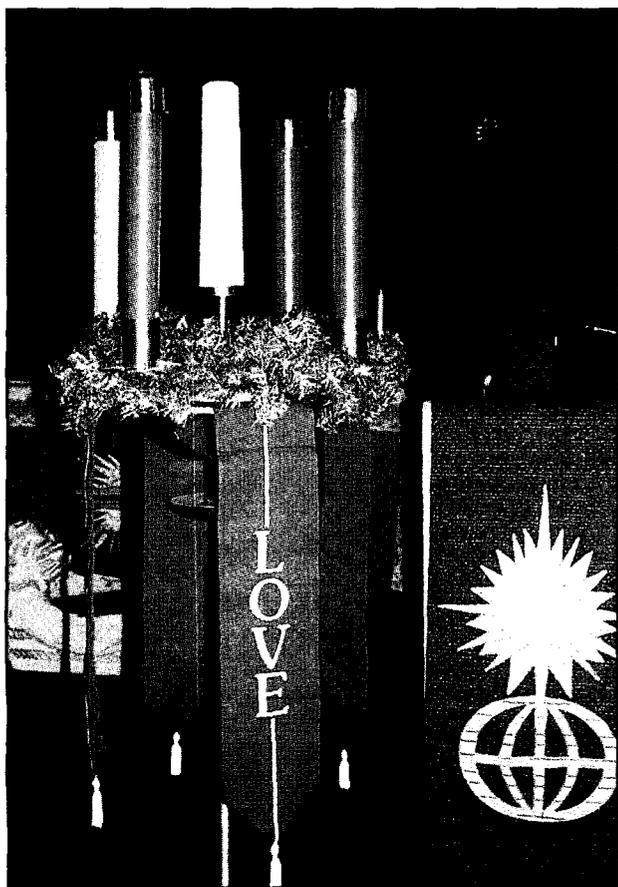


Photo by Sandy Riebeling

*Church plans events, collects gifts and food for needy in community*

By SANDY RIEBELING  
Staff writer

It's time to get out the calendars and start scheduling those special holiday plans. The Protestant and Catholic congregations at the Bicentennial Chapel still have a season full of services to usher in the Christmas spirit.

The Christmas Around the World program, a joint venture between congregations, will be Sunday at 5:30 p.m. The small service will celebrate how Christmas is celebrated in other countries. Ethnic foods from places like the Philippines, Korea and Germany, as well as American cuisine will be available in the fellowship hall for tasting after the service.

### Catholic

There will be a soup supper following a 6 p.m. Advent service Dec. 19 at the Chapel.

The Penitential mass Dec. 21 will begin at 6 p.m.

Christmas Eve services include a children's mass at 5 p.m., with a Christmas pageant and interpretation given by the character of St. Nicholas. After mass the congregation is invited to a reception to celebrate the birth of Jesus with cake and singing. The regular Christmas mass will begin at midnight.

### Protestant

The 11 a.m. service Sunday will be a full musical service, with traditional Christmas carols.

The Christmas Eve candlelight service will be at 7 p.m. "We'd like to invite the community to all these events,"

Chaplain. (Lt. Col.) John Humphrey, said. "It's a wonderful time to celebrate and reconnect with the community."

The chapel also has several drives this year to help the needy. An angel tree, near the altar of the church, still has names of children that need to be sponsored for Christmas. There is also a non-perishable food drive and gloves, mittens and scarf tree.

"We are collecting food for eight families on post," Phyllis Gibat, Catholic parish assistant, said. "That will be open until the 23rd but we collect food all year-round and donate it to St. Vincent DePaul. We're also collecting blankets and jackets for the needy in the Hispanic community in Albertville."

The chapel continues to sponsor the holiday food program for needy soldiers.

"The donations have been very generous this year," Chaplain (Col.) Chris Anderson said. "We have donations from both congregations and organizations on post like the officers' wives, retired officers and their auxiliary, the Sergeants Major Association, the Thrift Shop, and then individual donors. We take the money and buy vouchers for the soldiers to use at the Commissary. The senior NCOs are a great help in managing the program."

Money left over from the Christmas donations will be used for Operation Helping Hand, to assist soldiers during the year. About four soldiers a month are helped through this program.

"Whatever people choose to do," Humphrey said, "it's a time to remember our Savior's birth. It's a time to spend time together, creating memorable moments."

**HOLIDAY SERVICES—** The Catholic community has a soup supper following its 6 p.m. Advent service Dec. 19 at the Bicentennial Chapel. Special services are planned throughout the upcoming weeks.

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# Online shopping convenient but carries risks, too

## Protect privacy, track purchases

By CAPT. ERICK OTTOSON  
Legal Office

Surf the Internet for more than 30 seconds or so and you'll likely be inundated with ads from online retailers looking for your holiday dollars. If you plan to take the plunge and buy gifts online this year, it pays to look before you leap.

Internet shopping offers much in the way of personal convenience, but it also presents some unique risks. The following tips, offered by the Federal Trade Commission, will help you protect your per-

sonal information and avoid being swindled by unscrupulous virtual vendors:

- Know with whom you're dealing. If you've never heard of a particular seller, check its reputation with the State Attorney General's Office or the Better Business Bureau. These agencies are available online at the following: [www.ago.state.al.us](http://www.ago.state.al.us) and <http://www.huntsville.bbb.org>, respectively.

- Protect your privacy. Provide your personal information only if you know who is receiving it, why they need it, and how it will be used.

- Guard your passwords. Use different passwords when making a purchase than the ones you use to log on to your computer or network. Don't reveal your pass-

words to anyone. When choosing a password, avoid using a telephone number, birthday, or portion of your social security number. Instead, use a combination of numbers, letters and symbols.

- Pay the safest way. Credit card transactions are covered by the Fair Credit Billing Act and offer the most consumer protections. If you find an error on your credit card statement, you may dispute the charge and withhold payment on the disputed amount while the charge is in dispute. In the case of unauthorized use of a consumer's credit card, consumers are generally held liable only for the first \$50 in charges.

- Order only on a secure server. Look for an unbroken key or padlock symbol at the bottom of the browser window to ensure that your transmission is protected. Buy only from web vendors that offer appropriate privacy protection. Many companies post their privacy policies on their websites; these policies generally disclose what information is being collected on the website and how that information is used.

- Check shipping and handling fees. Don't forget to factor these into the cost of your order, and to choose the delivery option that best suits your needs.

- Check out refund/return policies before you buy.

- Track your purchases. Keep a print-out of the web page with details about the

transaction, including return policies if you're not satisfied. Ensure that it contains the company's name, address, and phone number, a complete list of the items that you ordered, and a confirmation code if one is provided.

- Know your rights. By law, a company should ship your order within the time stated in its advertisements. If no time is promised, the company should ship your order within 30 days after receiving it. If they company can't ship within the time they promise, they must give you a choice: agree to the delay or cancel your order and receive a prompt refund.

If you have an unsatisfactory online shopping experience, your first step should be to contact the retailer. Explain your problem and ask that it be rectified promptly. If it is not resolved, take your business elsewhere in the future. If you feel the company may have broken the law, seek legal advice and/or consult the Better Business Bureau and the State Attorney General's Office. You can also file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission's Consumer Response Center by calling 1-877-FTC-HELP. Keep in mind, though, that some business practices—such as notifying the consumer that an order will be delayed in a less-than-timely manner—may be poor customer service, but do not necessarily violate the law.

## Avoid holiday splurge urge

### ARMY COMMUNITY SERVICE RELEASE

December is a time of special dinners with family and friends, parties and exchanging of gifts. These are good times and higher-than-usual family expenses.

Unplanned or over enthusiastic holiday spending can create financial troubles, especially in January when the bills arrive.

Follow these steps to avoid the holiday splurge urge:

- Estimate holiday expenses, including travel, special meals, charitable donations, phone calls, gifts, and greeting

cards. List the people you usually buy gifts for, and this year's gift ideas.

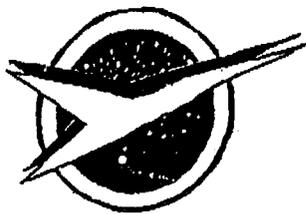
- How much you can afford to take out of income, from savings, and how much you can afford to put on credit cards?

- Set realistic limits. Remember, it is the thought that counts, not the price tag.

- Shop early, take advantage of sales, and avoid impulse buys.

- Keep track of the costs and know what bills will be arriving.

- Control your spending, lower financial stress and enjoy the season.



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**Tuesday**  
AutoCAD 2000  
Auto Body Repair, I  
Auto Tune-up/Gen. Maintenance  
Cabinetmaking, Advanced  
Welding Practice I

**Wednesday**  
Precision Machine Shop  
House Construction

**Thursday**  
Auto Body Repair, Advanced  
Welding Practice II  
Basic Cabinetmaking  
Brick/Block Masonry  
Cooking On The Grill\*  
\*(8 weeks, \$100.00)

The following classes meet one night a week for eight weeks, from 6-9pm. Cost is \$75.00

**Monday**  
C/C++ Programming\*  
Making Web Pages\*  
Windows '98, Introduction\*

**Tuesday**  
Microsoft Office 2000, Part One (Word/Excel)\*  
Learning to use the Internet\*  
Introduction To Computers\*

**Wednesday**  
Computer Keyboarding\*  
Windows '98, Introduction\*  
Microsoft Word 2000\*  
Advanced Object Oriented Concepts\*

**Thursday**  
Introduction to Computers\*  
Microsoft Excel 2000 Introduction\*

\* Limited Enrollment (11 students per class) \* Personal Checks or Cash Only

### Registration

December 11-14 Noon - 8:00pm • December 15 8:00am - 3:00pm  
January 8-11 Noon - 8:00pm • January 12 8:00am - 3:00pm

Class Begins Tuesday, January 16th

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Dr. Mary Ruth Yates, Interim Superintendent, Huntsville City Schools

# Unintended pregnancy can end a military trainee's career

## Soldiers advised to be responsible

By Sgt. SHARON McBRIDE  
Staff writer

It's been an issue ever since women have been allowed to serve in the military: soldiers who become pregnant while on active duty.

Normally it's a non-issue, but if the soldier is in a training status it can be a difficult situation for both the soldier and their chain of command— especially if the soldier who becomes pregnant is single.

This soldier merits more attention because all the issues that pregnant soldiers face are magnified. Some military occupational specialties require that they be removed from training.

"Once the soldier has been identified as being pregnant and is removed from training, the soldier has three options," Capt. Mary Walsh, commander of B Company, 832nd Ordnance Battalion, said.

Those options are as follows:

- Restart. "The soldier can choose to start class again after she's had her baby," Walsh said.

- Reclassify. "A soldier can choose to go into a different military occupational

specialty," she said. B Company trains 35Y, 35 H, 39B, 27E, 27T and 27M — specialties that deal with missile repair and communications. But because of the exposure to petroleum and petroleum by-products, these specialties may be hazardous to the health of a young mother and her baby. Additionally, some specialties have heavy lifting requirements.

- Or, leave the Army through administrative discharge.

"Any of these choices are a drastic choice," Walsh said. But it's a choice that must be made because pregnant soldiers are placed on a medical profile.

"If a soldier goes on profile, any type of profile, and that limits a soldier's duty, that soldier is placed in a hold status," said CWO 5 Charles Etheridge, chief, Training Management Directorate of Instruction, OMMCS. "Whether it's a broken arm or a pregnancy. Pregnancy is treated like any other medical problem; they are pulled out of class."

And until the profile is removed, the soldier will not continue in class, Etheridge said.

It is then that the soldier must make important decisions regarding her future in the military and the fate of her baby. It's important to note that any decision made is the soldier's own.

If a soldier chooses to restart, it's nine months plus maternity leave before she can start school again. And after the baby arrives, there's the question of day care and who's going to take care of the child while the soldier is in school. According to Army regulations, a workable Family Care Plan is required for a single or dual-military parent to remain on active duty.

At Redstone, often soldiers must seek off-post day care depending on their schedules, but in a training environment the day starts at 4:30 a.m. and the pace is non-stop, and the hours are long. Existing day care facilities on post aren't open that early. "It would be a very difficult situation," Walsh said.

If a soldier chooses to reclassify to another specialty, they have to forfeit any bonuses that they were previously eligible for.

"Those bonuses are contingent upon them successfully completing their training," Lt. Col. John Wright, commander of 832nd Ordnance Battalion, said. No graduation, no money.

If a soldier chooses to leave the service, there are provisions in Army Regulation 635-200 that authorize a soldier maternity care in a military treatment facility if the administrative chapter proceedings are initiated prior to the delivery of the child. The care is authorized through the birth of the child, and includes a six-week, post-partum visit. The child is also authorized one well-baby visit. After that, mom and child are on their own.

And of course a soldier can try to hide her pregnancy while in training, which has happened before.

"But if they don't tell and they contin-

ue training, it ups the possibility for a miscarriage," Walsh said. With the amount of stress placed on the soldier and the training requirements they must meet, a "normal" pregnant soldier would have a difficult time during training; if it's a "complicated" pregnancy, it's virtually impossible.

A soldier can also choose to terminate the pregnancy. But because of different religious beliefs and convictions, some soldiers don't even consider that an option.

A soldier will often be referred to social work services on post or the unit chaplain to help the soldier deal with difficult decisions like adoption and abortion. And soldiers are once again on their own to make those decisions. The Army does not include abortions as part of the medical care provided to pregnant soldiers.

"We will provide them with any medical (help) that they do need to include any type of counseling," Lt. Col. Joan Campanaro, commander of Fox Army Health Center, said.

But it all comes down to being informed and responsible.

"The soldiers are briefed and are told they are not to have relationships while they are here," Walsh said. "But some of them do it anyway. I tell them, if they are going to do it... do it safely."

A recent study conducted at Fort Lewis, Wash., found that 65 percent of the E-4s and below who sought prenatal care had not intended to become pregnant, according to Jeffrey B. Clark, author of Incidence of Unintended Pregnancy

See Pregnancy on page 13



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# Florida State picked to win national championship

By SKIP VAUGHN  
Rocket editor

Skip's Picks finished the college football season with a 132-52 record for 72 percent. Here are my predictions for the bowl games:

- **Orange**— Jan. 3, 7 p.m. at Miami— Florida State over Oklahoma.
- **Sugar**— Jan. 2, 7 p.m. at New Orleans— Miami over Florida.
- **Fiesta**— Jan. 1, 7 p.m. at Tempe, Ariz.— Notre Dame over Oregon State.
- **Rose**— Jan. 1, 4 p.m. at Pasadena, Calif.— Washington over Purdue.
- **Citrus**— Jan. 1, noon at Orlando, Fla.— Michigan over Auburn.
- **Gator**— Jan. 1, 11:30 a.m. at Jacksonville, Fla.— Clemson over Virginia Tech.
- **Outback**— Jan. 1, 10 a.m. at Tampa, Fla.— Ohio State over South Carolina.
- **Cotton**— Jan. 1, 10 a.m. at Dallas— Tennessee over Kansas State.
- **Independence**— Dec. 31, 7 p.m. at Shreveport, La.— Texas A&M over Mississippi State.

- **Silicon Valley**— Dec. 31, 5:30 p.m. at San Jose, Calif.— Air Force over Fresno State.
- **Alamo**— Dec. 30, 7 p.m. at San Antonio— Nebraska over Northwestern.
- **Holiday**— Dec. 29, 7:30 p.m. at San Diego— Texas over Oregon.
- **Peach**— Dec. 29, 4 p.m. at Atlanta— Georgia Tech over LSU.
- **Sun**— Dec. 29, 1:15 p.m. at El Paso, Texas— Wisconsin over UCLA.
- **Liberty**— Dec. 29, 12:30 p.m. at Memphis, Tenn.— Colorado State over Louisville.
- **Insight**— Dec. 28, 6:30 p.m. at Phoenix— Pittsburgh over Iowa State.
- **Micronpc**— Dec. 28, 6 p.m. at Miami— N.C. State over Minnesota.
- **Music City**— Dec. 28, 3 p.m. at Nashville, Tenn.— West Virginia over Ole Miss.
- **Humanitarian**— Dec. 28, 12:30 p.m. at Boise, Idaho— UTEP over Boise State.
- **Galleryfurniture**— Dec. 27, 7 p.m. at Houston— Texas Tech over ECU.

- **Motor City**— Dec. 27, 3 p.m. at Detroit— Marshall over Cincinnati.
- **Aloha**— Dec. 25, 2:30 p.m. at Honolulu— Arizona State over Boston College.
- **Oahu**— Dec. 24, 7:30 p.m. at Honolulu— Virginia over Georgia.
- **Las Vegas**— Dec. 21, 7 p.m. at Las Vegas— Arkansas over UNLV.
- **Mobile**— Ala., Dec. 20, 6:30 p.m. at Mobile— Southern Miss over TCU.



A BAD CASE OF BOWL GAME FEVER

## Unmarried, pregnant soldiers face career decisions

### Pregnancy

continued from page 12

Among Female Soldiers Presenting for Prenatal Care at a U.S. Army Obstetrical

Clinic, Madigan Army Medical Center. The study also revealed that of all the soldiers who had an unintended pregnancy, 65 percent were not using contraception at the time. No current statistics are available at Redstone Arsenal, Campanaro

said. Army medical care does provide female soldiers with birth control at no cost. All it takes is going to sick call to get it started. Reasonable accommodations will be made for soldiers wishing to go on sick call and to visit the OB/GYN during training, Walsh said. But because of reli-

gious beliefs and convictions, this can also be a hard decision for soldiers to make.

"Their personal relations are their business," Walsh said. "But I tell my female soldiers to be responsible now, because nine months later they can be left alone with a baby to care for."

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PL/SQL Programming	Jan 16-25 • T-Th • 5:30-8:50pm • 21010499N
Oracle Database Backup and Recovery	Jan 16-25 • T-Th • 5:30-8:50pm • 21010095N
Fundamentals of Drawing and Part Design Using Pro/ENGINEER	Jan 16-Feb 8 • T-Th • 6-9:20pm • 21010343N
Turbomachinery Technology	Jan 22&23 • M&T • 8am-Noon • 23010129N
Dreamweaver Fundamentals	Jan 22-25 • M-Th • 4:30-9:30pm • 21010308N
Networking Basics	Jan 22-25 • M-Th • 4:30-9:30pm • 21010318N
Fundamentals of C	Jan 22-Feb 2 • M-F • 8am-Noon • 21010292N
Introduction to Java Programming	Jan 29-Feb 1 • M-Th • 4:30-9:30pm • 21010313N
Installing, Configuring, and Administering Microsoft Windows 2000 Professional	Jan 29-Feb 8 • M-Th • 4:30-8:50pm • 21010324N
Fundamentals of Visual Basic	Feb 5-16 • M-F • 8am-Noon • 21010296N
Fundamentals of Engineering: Preparation for the FE Exam	Feb 15-Apr 5 • T&Th • 5:30-8:30pm • 23010338N

**Business & Management**

ISO9000-2000 Standards Overview and Update	Jan 18-25 • Th • 5:30-8:30pm • 23010289N
Project Management Fundamentals 1 week format!	Jan 22-26 • M-F • 8:30am-4:30pm • 23010347N
Understanding the Government Procurement System	Jan 22-29 • M • 6-9pm • 23010060N
Effective Communications: The Key to Success	Jan 22-Mar 5 • M • 6-9pm • 23010058N
Risk Planning and Analytical Techniques	Jan 23-Feb 13 • T • 6-9pm • 23010055N
ISO9000-2000 Implementation	Feb 8-Mar 1 • Th • 5:30-8:30pm • 23010286N
Competing for Today's Workforce: Recruiting and Retaining Generation X	Feb 15-22 • Th • 6-9pm • 23010138N

Professional Development Offices will be closed for the holidays from Dec. 21-Jan. 1

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# Defense honors manufacturing technology achievements

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF DEFENSE RELEASE

WASHINGTON— The second annual Defense Manufacturing Technology Achievement Award was presented Nov. 28 at the Defense Manufacturing Conference in Tampa, Fla.

Award recipients included government, industry, and university technologists from the Army's Advanced Optics Manufacturing program and the joint-Service Flexible Manufacture of Microwave Vacuum Devices initiative.

The award recognizes Defense and private sector individuals responsible for developing innovative manufacturing processes that improve the affordability, cycle time, or readiness of Defense weapon systems or components. Delores Etter, deputy under secretary of Defense for Science and Technology, presented the award.

The Advanced Optics Manufacturing program developed a multi-axis, computer-controlled optical finishing technology, known as Magnetorheological Finishing (MRF), that provides significant cost savings in the manufacture of precision optical surfaces. Compared to conventional,

labor-intensive processing methods, MRF reduces the typical cost of spherical optics from \$100 to \$60, and reduces system weight up to 30 percent. A cost avoidance of more than \$100 million is forecast for application to multiple defense systems (e.g., Stinger, Comanche Daylight Targeting System, Low Cost Precision Kill Missile, Joint Stand Off Weapon, Objective Individual Crew Served Weapon, and Precision Guided Mortar Munition) that use precision optics in target acquisition, identification, surveillance, and communication devices.

The MRF finishing machine is commercially available, and has received industry-wide acclaim, winning two of the optical industry's most prestigious awards for technology innovation and achievement: the Phontonics Circle Excellence Award and the Laser Focus World (LFW) Commercial Technology Achievement Award. Manufacturers of photolithographic optics and several major optics shops in the United States have already installed multiple MRF machines to produce ultra-high precision

See Achievements on page 16

## ■ Drunk driving leads down wrong road Lesson

continued from page 1

lost her top-secret clearance at work.

After her third DUI, a letter of intent to was sent to her from Fort Meade, Md. Notification was also sent to AMCOM Intelligence and Security.

Ms. Driver knew a fourth DUI would mean mandatory prison time for one year and one day. She did not want her children to deal with the shame of their mother in prison, and the realization that she could possibly kill or injure others. Her self-esteem hit bottom. Ms. Driver knew she needed help, so she checked herself into Huntsville's Bradford Health Services, an addiction treatment center.

"Without a driver's license, and bus transportation unavailable to and from Redstone Arsenal, I was forced to rely on friends or take a taxi to work, which cost me \$15 one way for only eight miles," she said. "Nor does the Alabama Department of Public Safety allow you to have a hardship license like some other states do."

This year Ms. Driver was eligible to get her driver's license back. She had to have 15 people write letters on her behalf and have a personal character interview with the State Trooper investigator assigned to her case. Today, Ms. Driver has her license back, but she must carry high-risk insurance, which she says is unaffordable.

Ms. Driver also had to prepare a nine-page letter for Intelligence and Security explaining why she should get her clearance back; complete an in or out-patient program at Bradford Health Services, and stay sober for 12 months, which she complied with; and today has her clearance back.

According to Ms. Driver, drunk driving is not an accident, it's a crime

— the most frequently committed violent crime. She realizes now what happened to her and what has happened to others is wrong. Ms. Driver has not had a drink in two years.

"If someone recognizes he or she has a problem, or they see another employee has a problem, he or she can call the Employee Assistance Professionals, Marshall Reiss at 955-0748, or Rosalyn Massie at 842-9896," Ruby Turner, alcohol and drug control officer, said. "We offer a supervisor's training course on the third Tuesday of the month at building 5250."

Since 1982 the Army has instituted support for the National Drunk and Drugged Driving Prevention month in December. The 3D Coalition is a national public-private partnership devoted to preventing impaired driving accidents. The coalition is made up of representatives from the federal government, highway safety, public health organizations, law enforcement, private industry and the military.

"This year's activities include 'Lights on for Life Day' Dec. 15, where we encourage all motorists to drive with their lights on during the day," Evelyn Pharris, alcohol and drug education coordinator, said. "In addition, our office will be sending out daily e-mails offering tips for people that are hosting or going to parties, mocktail recipes for non-alcoholic drinks, and giving out red ribbons for people to tie on their antennas, which will be available for pick up at the Sparkman Center cafeteria entrance. Also, we will have coasters and napkins available at the Fox Army Health Center and Sparkman Center cafeterias."

Turner provided the following advice "to keep a friend alive" on party night: Drive your friend home; call a cab; or have your friend sleep over. "Remember you drink and drive, you lose," she said.

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# Directorate spreads holiday cheer to needy children



Photo by Margaret Banish-Donaldson

**SAMD SANTAS**— Daniel Hemeyer and Kay Brothers pack up gifts employees brought to Security Assistance Management Directorate's holiday party for delivery to Christmas Charities.

By MARGARET BANISH-DONALDSON  
For the Rocket

With the holiday season approaching, the Security Assistance Management Directorate decided to bring gifts or money to its Holiday Party at the Rustic Lodge for Christmas Charities.

Now that SAMD is in three buildings and people are collocated in other places, this was a good time to renew friendships and have some camaraderie too," Brandy Goff said.

"Whether it's a fire truck, a doll, a football, a simple toy... most children take these things for granted, but to a needy child, a toy is a message of hope," Kay Brothers said. "That's why we decided SAMD's theme for our party this year would be sharing and giving."

SAMD held a cookout fund-raiser last month to help offset some of the costs for

the decorations and door prizes. And the leftover food from the cookout was donated to Harris Home for abused and abandoned children.

"Thanks to our committee who worked very hard the last six weeks putting all of this together, we sold 177 tickets," Kay Brothers said. "Nevertheless, I have to give special thanks to Sharon Wagner who was able to take over for me on the committee while I was out of town a lot, and also donated two coffee candle cans and one poinsettia plant as extra door prizes." Christmas Charities picked up the toys and money after SAMD's party, and will distribute them to needy children at Christmas.

"There are no post-holiday exchanges at SAMD, but the charity promises its gifts of service will keep on giving." Brothers said.

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## ■ Army families find peer support

### Family

continued from page 8

Before the family moved to Redstone, Bonner put in a call to Army Community Service, looking for answers to her questions. It was the first place she went when the family arrived on post. She was a volunteer before she left that day.

"One of the biggest problems military people face, coming in new to the Army, is the perception of what it is vs. the reality. The recruiters will tell you that the Army will do everything for you but in reality, you have to learn to do things on your own. Probably the hardest thing is the separation. I became a single parent overnight. Since April I've had to be mom, dad, repairman, pay the bills, get the oil changed in the car. Suddenly I had to be able to handle everything. And because of that, I needed to know everything."

It wasn't long before the Bonners were enrolled in a class called Army Family Team Building. The level one class covers all aspects of military life, from identifying ranks to military customs to reading leave and earnings statements. It was exactly what Bonner needed.

"Everyone can learn in AFTB," Bonner said. "It doesn't matter if you've been in the Army six months, two years, or 10 years. There is stuff in those classes it

would take you years to pick up on your own."

Bonner's husband feels the same way.

"It's so important to keep your spouse informed," he said. "You have to make sure they can take care of things if you get called away. Soldiers don't need to be worried about what's going on back home. They need to be ready to go and do the mission. Families have to work together."

Because of their enthusiasm for the classes, AFTB coordinator, Cathy Ryan, asked the Bonners to take additional training to become AFTB instructors. The Bonners now work with Bridget Simpkins, AFTB program manager.

"They are such great examples of who the military can attract and how Army families can be when searching out information for themselves," Simpkins said. "Both came in committed to get information, committed to the learning process."

The more Bonner learned, the more she wanted to share with others.

"I knew there were lots of wives out there just like me, wanting to ask questions, because I would see them when they came to ACS. But I also knew there were a lot who didn't know where to go for answers," she said.

Bonner began working with the B Company Family Readiness Group, a support group for spouses. The more she

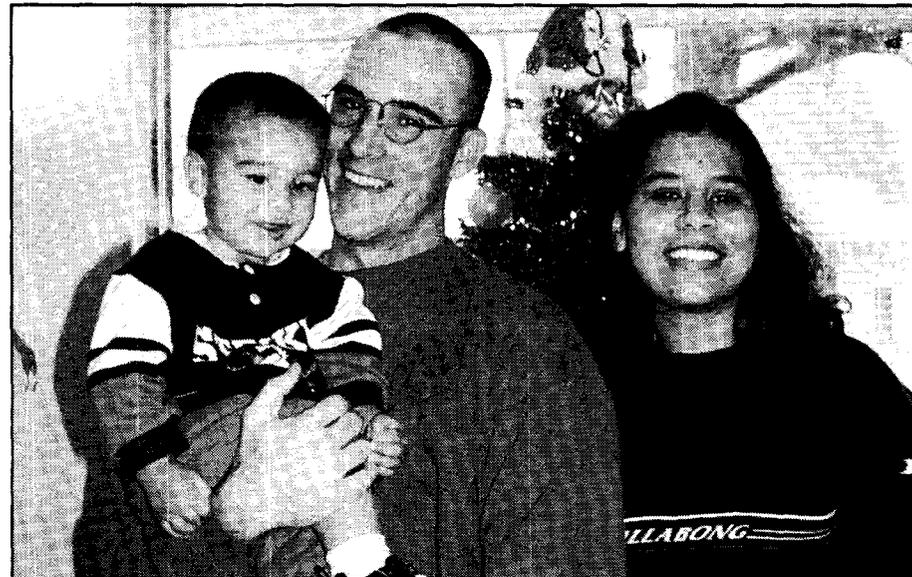


Photo by Sandy Riebelin

**TEAMWORK—** Choosing military life was a family decision for Pvt. Douglas Bonner and his wife Stacie but they have managed to not only make it work, but help other Army families along the way. Bonner, holding son, Alex, is an AIT student in B Company, 832nd Ordnance Battalion.

reached out to other spouses, the more obvious the need was.

"I got a list of wives of B Company who lived on post and called every one of them," Bonner said. "Most of them thought they were the only ones there, because just like in my case, the Army discouraged me from coming."

Bonner talked with them, answered questions, explained some of the services provided on post and gave out phone numbers of organizations that might be helpful.

"There are three phone numbers I give everyone— Fox Army Health Center, ACS and Child Development Center."

Her own phone number is among the information Bonner offers.

"We've had calls in the middle of the night to baby-sit. One woman called when her water broke. She was in labor and we had to take her to the hospital," she said. "It's so important that we get all the information we can and that we're there for each other."

"Volunteering is a great way to get to know the military and the families around you. Families have to take care of each other."

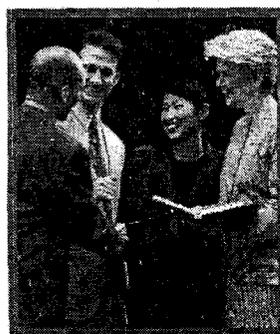
Even though Bonner now has a full time job with a debt management/budget counseling service in Huntsville, she still spends time working with ACS and the support group.

"I'm trying to get a list of phone numbers for all the soldiers' spouses in B Company, even those not living on post. I want to call them once a month just so that they can feel connected and to tell them about Army services so that when they do get to their first duty station they'll know where to go for help."

"It's not like we know everything, Pvt. Bonner was quick to add. "It's just that we do know what it's like to be new to the military. We understand about having a million questions. We know how tough it is to live on my salary and how important financial management is. We don't have all the answers, but we're here to help families get in touch with the people who do. The military is much more than the soldiers. It's the families who stand behind them."

In an effort to honor and celebrate military families, the Department of Defense proclaims the week of Thanksgiving a Military Family Week.

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## ■ Defense honors new technology

### Achievements

continued from page 14

optics. The program is funded by the Army Manufacturing Technology Program and is managed by the Center for Optics Manufacturing in Rochester, N.Y.

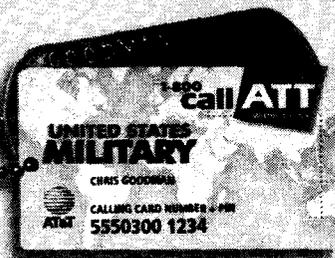
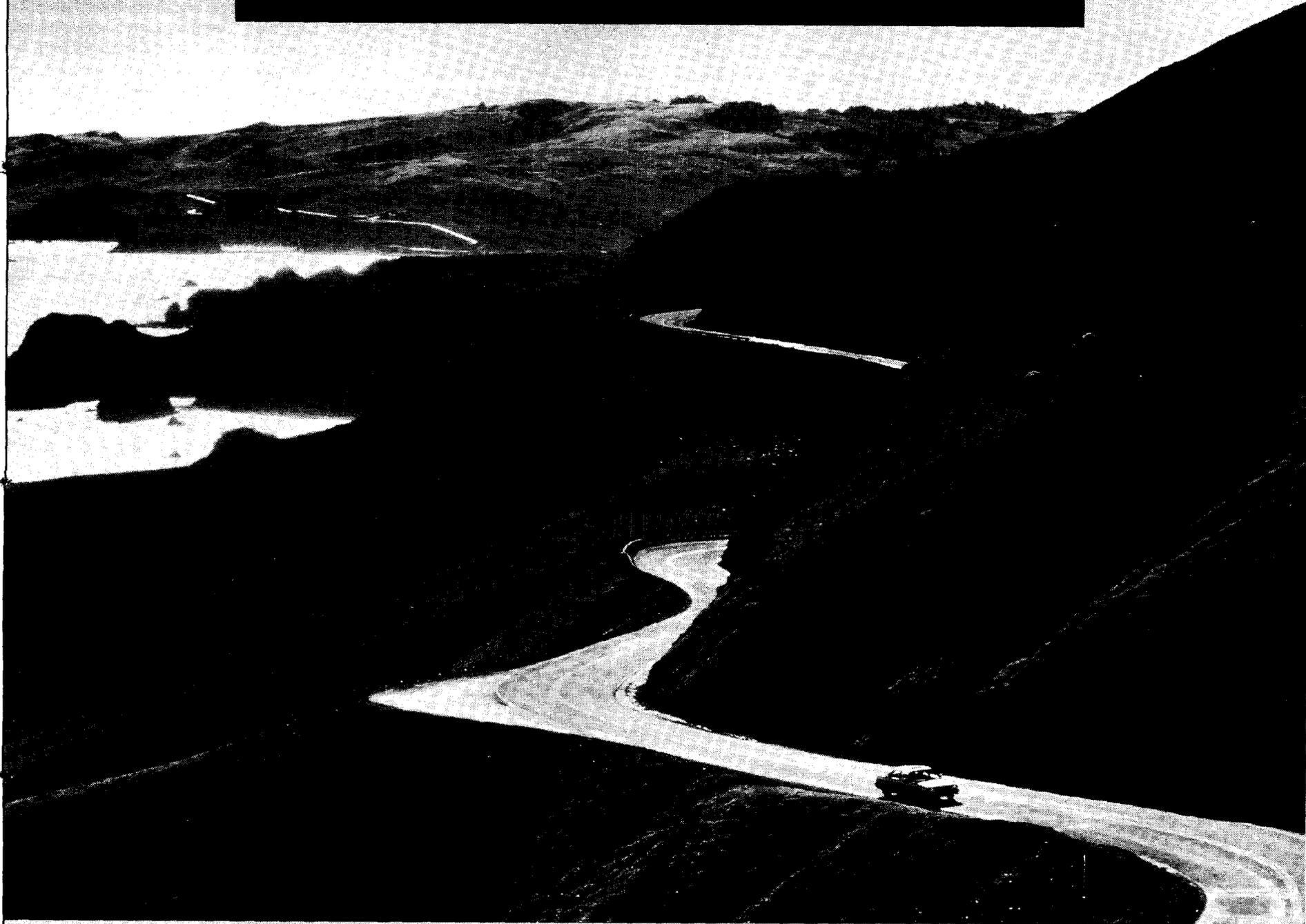
The Flexible Manufacture of Microwave Vacuum Devices program has resulted in significant cost reductions and increased yield in traveling wave tube devices for critical military applications, and improvement of on-shore domestic sources for devices previously imported from Europe.

Microwave devices are used in over half of the current Defense weapon sys-

tems. With less than 20 percent overlap between the Defense and commercial markets, there is little opportunity for the Department of Defense to leverage means for commercial-off-the-shelf suppliers to provide cost effective, state-of-the-art devices.

A government/industry team consisting of representatives from the Army, Navy, Air Force, the American Competitiveness Institute, Communications and Power industries, Northrop Grumman and Teledyne Electronic Technologies led the initiative. The team worked on manufacturing improvements for devices in critical segments of the power/frequency spectrum.

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# Analyst finds satisfaction as volunteer archaeologist

## Earthwatch adventure takes her to Europe

By MARGARET BANISH-DONALDSON  
For the Rocket

Ann Casanova was digging around in the dirt when she stumbled upon a stylus which is being hailed as a major archaeological discovery.

Although she had no background in archaeology, Casanova said she jumped at

the chance to research the Arbeia Roman Fort at South Shields on the River Tyne in Northeast England. As a volunteer for Earthwatch, she spent two weeks excavating artifacts in the area, measuring site drawings, performing elementary site surveying, and processing environmental samples.

Earthwatch is a nonprofit institute that has spent the past few decades perfecting the balance between do-gooder volunteerism and hard-core adventure travel. Its



Courtesy photo

**EXCAVATION SITE—** Earthwatch volunteer Ann Casanova, left, and museum workers help recover the history of Roman buildings in one quadrant of the research area. In some excavated deposits, grain and other plant remains survive; volunteers help recover and process samples from these deposits.

## Deploying guardsmen will miss families, jobs



Photo by Sandy Riebeling

**SETTING THE COURSE—** SFC Richard Cole, fire control platoon officer, works in the operations center plotting position of the firing unit on a map.

## Deployment

continued from page 1

mission in Saudi Arabia. It's not exactly what he expected, but it's an opportunity he wouldn't trade for the world.

On Jan. 2, a Patriot battery of 74 Alabama National Guard soldiers, including four females, will deploy with an active Army battalion from Fort Bliss, Texas, for a peacekeeping rotation in Southwest Asia.

"This is a first-ever deployment for a National Guard Patriot Battalion," Capt. Marc Neely, Bravo Battery commander, said. "Most battalions have five batteries but the Fort Bliss 2nd Battalion, 1st Air Defense Artillery, only has four batteries. We're taking the place of the fifth."

The deployment is a routine rotation of the peacekeeping mission in Saudi Arabia active since the Gulf War. The tour is expected to last about five months but could go as long as 179 days.

The Guard battalion was put on alert in April and began performing Southwest Asia training missions right away. The battalion built a mock of the Saudi Patriot site here at the National Guard training site on Redstone Arsenal, with the help of local business including Home Depot and Wilson Lumber.

The presidential order for deployment came Nov. 17.

"When we got the news that we were going, I guess I had mixed emotions," said Sgt. Kevin Slaten, a 15-year veteran of the National Guard. "I'm excited about going but I'm going to miss my family." Slaten leaves behind his wife, Tammy, a teacher in Ardmore, and two daughters, Katie, 14, and Whitney, 15.

Being prepared on the field wasn't

really an issue for the battalion. Consistent successful reviews from its active units over the past two years sent a clear signal of its abilities. Many of the guardsmen spend their civilian days working in and around the Patriot system.

"We have soldiers with master's degrees in electrical engineering, ASC certified mechanics, teachers, land administrators, people from Raytheon who work on the system. We have a lot of experts in our units," Neely said.

Neely is an electrical engineer for Sigmatech Inc. He works as a contractor for the Space and Missile Defense Command writing software for advanced warfare environments. His previous assignment was writing software for the Patriot radar.

The challenge for Neely, as battery commander, was not to see that the soldiers were trained. The soldiers were ready. The toughest part is preparing the soldiers for the personal costs of the mission. The guardsmen were briefed on how to prepare their homes and families for the upcoming deployment. Besides the emotional hardship of separation for the family, many soldiers are leaving seasoned careers and the money that brings home to go out in the field for a private or specialist's pay.

"Almost everybody in the battery volunteered to go," Cole said. "I think that's important concerning motivation and personal courage. I'm glad for the opportunity but just like for everyone else, it's hard on the family."

Spec. Jon Maghan doesn't face the same type of separation. The single, 24-year-old field engineer for Raytheon said that it's a great opportunity to get out of the country, experience other cultures and serve his country.

"When I told my parents and older sister, they were a little concerned but very proud of what I'm doing. Not many people get this opportunity. I'll miss my dog, Moose, but I'm ready to go."

The deployment presents a unique opportunity for the Guard. It's about patriotism, a quality that runs high among the soldiers but it's also about proving themselves.

"People have this misconception about the National Guard," Sgt. Kevin Slaten, Bravo Battery, said. "They think we come here for the weekend, drink beer and play cards. That's not what we do. We have one weekend a month and two weeks a year to train up to Army standards for a job that active duty spend 365 days doing. I hope it changes the way people feel about the Alabama National Guard—we are a vital part of national defense. It makes us all proud."

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# Announcements



## Sports & Recreation

### Bowling center

Rocket Lanes is open for lunch every Thursday and Friday. Lunch will be available from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., with bowling and beverage service available all afternoon. Cost is \$1.25 a line to bowl. Stop by Rocket Lanes for the Betty Burger Value Meal—two regular burgers, regular fries and a medium soft drink for \$3.50. RASA Mixed league is forming now and starting Jan. 9; all bowlers are welcome to join. For more information, call Rocket Lanes 876-6634.

### Turkey shoots

Outdoor Recreation will hold a lunchtime turkey shoot from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Thursday. Cost is \$4 per shot. Can't make it to the lunchtime Turkey Shoot? No problem, then come on out to Outdoor Recreation on Saturday from 10 a.m. to noon for the Weekend Turkey Shoot. For more information, call Outdoor Recreation 876-4868/6854.

### Hockey tickets

Civilian Welfare Fund Council still has some seats left on the bus for the St. Louis Blues vs. Nashville Predators hockey game Jan. 21 in Nashville. For \$30 and \$50 tickets, call Mary Ann Meyer-Schuck 313-5924.



## Miscellaneous

### Alcoholics anonymous

An Alcoholics Anonymous group meets each Thursday at 11 a.m. in 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.

### College apprentice program

Applications are available for the year 2001, for the Department of Defense and Engineering Apprentice and College Apprentice Program. Possible career placement includes the Aviation and Missile Command. The Science and Engineering Apprentice Program is designed for students who have demonstrated aptitude and interest in science and engineering. Eligible students must be a U.S. citizen and must at least be 15 years old by beginning date, June 11, 2001. The College Program is designed for undergraduates who have completed the Science and Engineering Apprentice Program and are enrolled in a scientific or technical major. Deadline for postmarking applications is Jan. 21. For an application see your high school senior counselor, or college place-

ment service. For more information call the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center, Customer Support C, Betty Duke 313-4790.

### Merit awards

Officer and Civilian Women's Club dependents (high school seniors or college students), spouses, and members may compete for merit awards to pay for tuition, books and fees for undergraduate or graduate level studies. To be eligible to apply for merit awards the club member must be an OCWC member in good standing as of Oct. 1. Applications must be postmarked no later than Feb. 6, 2001. Call Chris Swart 722-3087 to obtain an application or for more information.

### Severe weather closings

The winter weather season is approaching. If inclement weather causes Redstone Arsenal to close or delay its opening, tune in to any of the following stations for the most current information: Radio—WAHR, 99.1FM; WDRM, 102FM; WEKR, 1240AM; WEUP, 1600 AM; WGSV, 1270AM; WJAB, 90.9FM; WLRH, 89.3FM; WRAB, 1380AM; WRSA, 97FM; WTKI, 1450AM; WVNN, 770AM; WWIC, 1050AM; WZYP, 104.3FM.; Television—WAAY (Ch 31), WAFF (Ch 48) or WHNT (Ch 19). Two additional methods have been implemented to provide current information about delays or closures. A recorded announcement can be heard by calling 955-8445 or one can log on to the Team Redstone Internet Site ([www.redstone.army.mil](http://www.redstone.army.mil)) and click the Weather Alert button for weather information.

### Training conference

The Huntsville-Madison County Chapter of Blacks in Government will conduct its seventh annual Training Conference from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursday at the Beville Conference Center and Hotel, 550 Sparkman Drive. The theme of this year's conference is "Taking Charge of Your Career." The intent of the conference is to get attendees to focus on the big picture of career planning. For more information, call 551-7230.

### Gift-giving project

The Integrated Materiel Management Center invites everyone to participate in its 11th year of the "SOS Angels" community service that will bring necessities as well as great joy to less fortunate children. In this project, people get together to buy gifts for their adopted angel—a needy child. Gift turn-in is today from 7-10 a.m. at building 5309, first floor, room 9123. For more information, call Terry Russell 842-9369.

See Announcements on page 20



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# Announcements

## Sergeants major

The Sergeants Major Association will hold its monthly meeting Dec. 21 from 6:30-7:30 in the morning at the Radisson Suite Hotel on South Memorial Parkway. For more information, call Sgt. Maj. Bob Furia 842-9770.

## Acquisition workers

The Army is fully committed to the functional and leadership development of the Army Acquisition Work force (AAW). The AETE catalog outlines the opportunities that will enhance the technical and functional competency and leadership skills obtained through a specific career program. Participants in the AETE program ensure that the Army is developing an Army Acquisition Work force and Corps that is prepared to support the warfighter now and in the future. Three categories of the AETE catalog are Educational/Academic, Training and Experiential and Developmental. The catalog contains information and application procedures for specific programs such as Acquisition Tuition Assistance Program, School of Choice, Naval Postgraduate School Master's Degree in Contract Management and Program Management, Senior Service College, Leadership Training. During the August 2000 AETE board

selection, only 60 AAW members applied from all of Army. AAW members from Huntsville/Redstone Arsenal submitted 33 packages and 25 received approval for School of Choice, Naval Postgraduate School and Leadership Courses. The next AETE board will meet Jan. 30, 2001 and packages must be submitted to PERSCOM by close of business Dec. 29. Only individuals occupying AAW positions may apply. For more information, visit this web address: <http://dacm.sarda.army.mil/careerdevelopment>

## Astronomical society

The Von Braun Astronomical Society will hold a program about "The Christmas Star" at 7:30 p.m. Saturday at the planetarium in Monte Sano State Park. A star party will be held afterwards to view "the most beautiful lights of the season," a prepared release said. For more information, call Mitzi Adams 464-0945.

## Prayer breakfast

The next IMMC Nondenominational Prayer Breakfast will be held at 7 a.m. Dec. 19 in Sparkman Center building 5308, room 8124 (conference room). "No food or drinks will be served, but you may bring your own or come and feast on the spiritual food that will be served," a pre-

pared release said. "Everyone is welcome and invited, so join us for prayer, praise and fellowship."

## Holiday gala

The Officers and Civilians Club will hold a New Year's Eve dinner buffet and dance Dec. 31 for members and their guests. Tickets are \$29.95 and include prime rib, blackened salmon, continental breakfast, party favors and a champagne toast. Live entertainment by Aspen Gold will get the party started. Tickets are on sale now, so call 830-CLUB today. You are invited to take advantage of the all-inclusive on post lodging package for that evening. This package is \$95 per couple and includes lodging on Redstone Arsenal, transportation to and from the New Year's Eve Gala, dinner buffet and dance, plus a complimentary bottle of champagne in your room. For more information about the all-inclusive package, call 837-4130 or 876-5713.

## Body composition screening

The Public Health and Education Center at Fox Army Health Center will offer Body Composition Screening at Redstone Arsenal Fitness Center, building 3705, from 10 a.m. to noon Dec. 19. Please wear loose fitting, short sleeve shirts to make

the measurement easier. Body Composition measurement utilizes a bioelectrical impedance machine that measures total water content and calculates the proportion of lean tissue to body fat. For more information, call the Public Health and Education Center 842-0196.

## Christmas trees

All offices, day rooms, military personnel on active duty, and other activities requiring Christmas trees, are authorized to cut trees on a self-help basis in the area north-east of the Ammunition Supply Point (ASP) Area which is located across the road from the Redstone Arsenal Saddle Activity. Trees shall not be cut for commercial or unauthorized use. This area has been marked with orange flagging for easy recognition. Travel will be limited to the single pasture trail along the east side of the open pastureland. Cutting operations will be limited to inside the Christmas tree cutting area only. Extreme caution should be exercised to prevent straying outside of the area or off the access route and removing any objects other than a Christmas tree. Trees should be cut no later than Dec. 24 during the hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tree trimmings should not

See Announcements on page 21

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left on grassed rights-of-way, railroad tracks or access roads. For more information and location map, contact personnel Outdoor Recreation, building 5132, 76-4868.

### UAH choir

Come hear the sounds of the UAH Concert Choir and Tenor-Bass Chorale as they sing in the season with anthems from the renaissance through the modern age Friday at 7:30 p.m. The concert will be at St. John's Catholic Church on Hughes Road in Madison. Special music includes John Butt's Gloria, choruses from Messiah, and Christmas carols. Nina Alspaugh accompanies the choir; senior music education major Shelli Hill will conduct the Tenor-Bass Chorale, and Dr. Bonnie Need will conduct the concert choir. Admission is free but donations will be gratefully accepted to help the choir fundraise for its April 2001 European Tour.

### Santa's housing run

The Sergeants Major Association will signal the arrival of the Christmas holidays with its annual "Christmas Run" at 10 a.m. Saturday. Santa and his helpers will travel through the housing areas north and south of Goss Road on fire engines provided by the Redstone Arsenal Fire

Department. Bring your children out to participate in this joyous occasion and receive candy from Santa's Elves. In the event of inclement weather, he will make his rounds Dec. 18, starting at 4 p.m.

### Thrift shop

The Thrift Shop will have the following holiday store hours: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dec. 20-22. Regular store hours are 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Wednesdays and Fridays, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Thursdays, and from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. the first Saturday of the month. Consignment hours are as follows: Wednesdays and Thursdays, walk-ins from 9-noon and appointments from 12-3 p.m.; and Fridays, walk-ins only from 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. For more information, call 881-6992.

### Catholic community

Our Lady of the Valley, Catholic community at Bicentennial Chapel announces the following: Advent soup supper will be held Dec. 19 with mass at 6 p.m. followed by homemade soup. Korean mass is 6 p.m. Saturday. Christmas Around the World is 6 p.m. Sunday.

### Resource managers

American Society of Military Comptrollers will meet at 11:30 a.m. Thursday at

Trinity Personal Growth Center, Airport Road. Cecil Moses, former Madison police chief and FBI employee, is scheduled speaker. Cost is \$9 for members, \$10 non-members. For reservations call Lisa White 955-6806.

### Single soldiers party

Team Redstone and the BOSS (Better Opportunity for Single Soldiers) Committee will hold a New Year's Party, Dec. 31 from 8 p.m. to 3 a.m. at the Challenger Club. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door. Participants must be 21 or older. For tickets call CSM Rogers 876-5331, CSM Taylor 842-2896 or Spec. Bullard 876-7320.

### Defense association

Maj. Gen. Joseph Cosumano, acting director for the Task Force to Transform the Army, is scheduled speaker at a National Defense Industrial Association dinner tonight at 6 at the Huntsville Hilton. Price is \$30 per person.

### Admin professionals

The International Association of Administrative Professionals (IAAP), Redstone Arsenal Chapter will meet at 11 a.m. Dec. 19 at Officers and Civilians Club. There will be a short business meeting followed

by a gift exchange. If you would like to attend and participate in the gift exchange, bring a gift (maximum value \$10). Membership in the Redstone Arsenal Chapter is open to all federally employed office professionals. For more information call Jackie Kenner, membership chairman, 876-8131 or Ellen Mahathey, president, 876-3322.

### Lifetime weight control

Fox Army Health Center/ Public Health and Education Center (PHEC) will offer a 12-week series of classes titled "A Lifetime of Weight Control and Fitness." This is not your average weight loss program; this program is intended for those individuals striving to achieve a fit and healthy body. Its purpose is to initiate you into a lifetime of changes that impact your health and weight. This class is presented by a registered nurse, with assistance from a dietician, physical therapist and a session on Stress Management. "We do not weigh you. It is not a quick weight loss program, but a program to help you reach your personal goals and maintain them for a lifetime," a prepared release said. If interested call PHEC, Fox Army Health Center, 842-0196, to register for this class

See Announcements on page 22

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<p>'97 F350 Ext. dualy, power stroke diesel <b>\$18,800</b></p>	<p>'88 E150 Nice customized van <b>\$4,600</b></p>	

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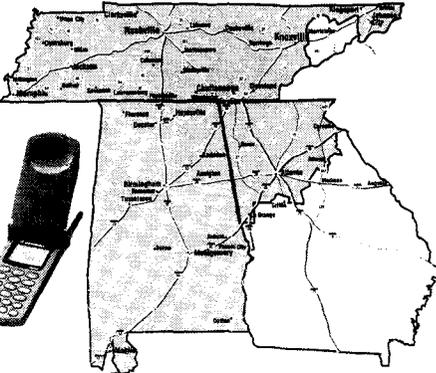


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## Earthwatch volunteer digs adventure in Europe

### Volunteer

continued from page 18

program menu now spans five continents and countless causes. If there's any part of the world a person wants to see, chances are Earthwatch has a reason for someone to be there.

The Arbeia site was a Roman military and civilian settlement and port of supply from the first to fourth centuries AD, known as Hadrian's Wall. It is located on a flat-topped hill on the northeast English coast, where the Romans made their harbor. The wall starts only four miles west of South Shields, and runs for 75 miles across the island of Britain.

"Although these are laboratory techniques, Earthwatch volunteers can participate in the sampling procedures," said Casanova, a program analyst for the Aviation Program Executive Office. "It was an ideal opportunity for me to assess the impact the Romans had on the local environment, and to trace the history of Roman activity at this post."

The first excavations took place there in 1875, in advance of houses being built over the site. By the 1970s, Victorian buildings had reached the end of their useful life and been removed, leaving nearly the whole site available for research.

Work with Earthwatch teams began in 1993 on an area of 1,500 square meters in the east quadrant of the fort. In 1998, work was completed on the northernmost of a pair of third-century barracks. Earthwatch teams plan to excavate in the central area of the fort until next year.

According to Dr. Nick Hodgson, principal keeper of archaeology, employed by the local museums in Tyneside, there are several forts that can be visited on Hadrian's Wall. But what makes South

Shields special is the permanent, large-scale excavation they are carrying out. Hodgson feels they are at the forefront of developments in knowledge of the Roman occupation of north Britain.

"I was there for two weeks as part of Team III," Casanova said. "There were 17 people in my group, 16 Americans and one Canadian. Volunteers arriving early can stay at a reduced rate at a project bed and breakfast at their own expense. Once I arrived at the site, the team, ranging in ages 16 to 71 years old, was divided into groups of four or five people who performed a wide range of duties."

A typical workday begins at 8 a.m. and ends around 5 p.m. Earthwatch provides all the tools. On some evenings, lectures are given about previous findings, teeth or bone fragments, or excursions are taken to nearby archeological sites.

An evening meal is taken in the volunteer's guesthouse, but there is plenty of time to eat out, attend a show at a local cinema or theater or just go out and have a drink and listen to music at a local pub.

"On one of my digs one day I found a stylus, and everyone was so excited," Casanova said. "They documented where I found it. I did a grid, taped and measured the area, and identified where I found the item, and got to put my name on the record."

There are no special skills required by the volunteers. The costs of joining a team are tax deductible to U.S. citizens. Projects can vary between one to two weeks in a field, and the team sizes are small. And special diets can be accommodated.

"This was my second Earthwatch adventure," Casanova said. "My first Earthwatch adventure occurred a few years ago when I worked with dolphins."

For more information about Earthwatch, call 1-800-776-0188.

#### AUTO/TRUCKS

1999 Chev Cavalier, auto A/C, 21K miles, gold w/black interior, \$8500. 430-1641

1998 Dodge Neon, 2 dr, 33k mi, cranberry, \$8800 OBO. 653-4352

1996 Lincoln Mark VIII Extra clean, 77k miles \$12,000 922-1424 after 5pm

1993 S-10 PU 5 speed, AC, 106 miles \$3495. 828-8831

1993 HD Fatboy, excellent condition, 6300 miles, all chrome, spotless, \$18,500. 830-2491

1986 Chevy S10, V6 standard shift, AC, \$1750. 536-7958

1986 Toyota MR2 Black, 5 spd, alloys, sunroof, cold air, low miles, \$1295 Day 876-7744, Night 772-7136

1983 Oldmobile Cutlass Supreme, 143K mi., new trans/eng/paint job/carberator, cold air. \$1899 464-9690

#### BOATS/RV

1981 Astroglass 17.6ft, 140 V4 Johnson, trolling motor, depth finder, trailer, new tires, MUST SEE, extras, \$2,499. 837-9677.

1998 Chaparral S1830. Trailer, skiis, 5 life jackets, penta drive, 60 hours. \$13,800. Trade in \$14,300. Pgr 720-6392

1997 Winnebago Motorhome, 32ft, Ford 460 Engine, like new condition, Price reduced to \$46,500. Call 883-9093

#### MISCELLANEOUS

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3 Beautiful Cherry stacking tables, very decorative, \$150. Call 837-0805

20 Book Set Encyclopedia International w/2 bookset of The New Webster Dict. Exc. cond. asking \$70. Call 859-5586

1990 Chevrolet Z24 Caviler, 5 speed, 125k miles, cruise, A/C, tilt, runs excellent: \$3000 OBO. Call 726-8815

Diamond ring - half carat, pear shaped, Si1, color G-H appraised for \$2268. Sale for \$1100. Ask for Merita at 256-350-7519

Diamond ring, huge solitaire with baggets, paid over \$7K asking \$3K. 586- 2708

Gun Safes distributors warehouse open to the public large selection in stock for Christmas. 12 Gun Safe, Fire lined, \$599. + Tax Haleyville, AL. 205-486-2320

#### MISCELLANEOUS

1999 Kawasaki 4x4, 300 Prairie, automatic, excellent condition: \$4100. Call 881-9591

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Sauder Wardrobe closet, Cherry Finish, \$50. Call 837-0320.

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FSBO: 3BR/2BA, new paint job in/out, tiles, Gutters, big corner lot, \$92K 464-9690; MADISON.

FSBO: 5738 Jones Valley Dr. Approx. 3900sqft, 5BR/4BA, rec rm./office, sunrm, wrkshp, new paint/carpet, nice yd w/sprinkler, appt anytime. \$279,900. Call 881-3647.

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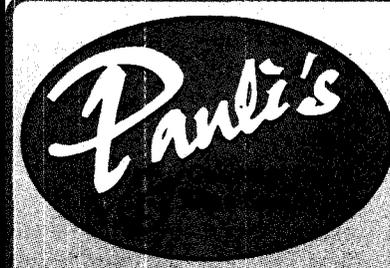
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