



Scout reports

e-mail: thescout@hua.army.mil

AFTB level II classes

Army Community Service will present Army Family Team Building Level II classes 5:30 - 9 p.m., Monday at Murr Community Center.

For more information, call ACS at 533-2330.

Scholarship available

Application forms for the \$1,000 Shirley Hinkley Scholarship are available at Buena High School and the Fort Huachuca Thrift Shop. All applications must be postmarked no later than Tuesday.

For more information, call 458-4606.

Financial readiness

Army Community Service will offer financial readiness classes in April. From 9 to 11 a.m. Wednesday, checkbook management will be offered, and from 9 to 10:30 a.m. April 14, budgeting and family supplemental subsistence allowance will be offered, both at ACS, Building 50010.

For more information, call Christine Bachaud, 533-6884.

Liberators sought

The Military Equal Opportunity Office is looking for anyone who helped liberate survivors from any of the concentration camps throughout Europe during WWII.

Individuals involved with the liberation can call the EO at 538-0533 or 533-1717.

INSIDE



Patrol training

Border Patrol trains on Fort Huachuca, learns about search, rescue and trauma. - Page 4



Season champs

Soccer season comes to an end. The championship was settled in two games. - Page B2



Photo by Elizabeth Harlan

"I've never seen so many boxing gloves in my life," said six-time world champion boxer Sugar Ray Leonard as he spent close to an hour signing boxing gloves and autographs at the Army and Air Force Exchange Tuesday.

Legend

Sugar Ray Leonard visits Army's home of boxing



James Benford was one of the hundreds of people who waited in line for Leonard's autograph. The exchange sold 100 pairs of boxing gloves for the event.

BY PFC. JOY PARIANTE
SCOUT STAFF

The six-time world champion and Olympic gold medalist boxer Sugar Ray Leonard visited Fort Huachuca's Army and Air Force Exchange on Tuesday to sign autographs for the post and Sierra Vista community.

"It is my pleasure and it is my honor to have the oppor-

tunity to meet the troops," Leonard said. Leonard's mother, Getha, was in the Air Force and his father, Cicero, was a boxer in the Army with a 39-1 record. "I realized that because of people like them [his parents] we have the protection, safety and reassurance that we're going to be OK."

Fort Huachuca is the home of Army boxing, annually hosting the All-Army boxing camp and hosting the Conseil International du Sport Militaire boxing this year. Leonard mentioned having fought some Army trained boxers during his career. "They have a program based on solid tradition, great talent and physical endurance."

"The advice I'd give to Army boxers is to stay focused, work hard and always believe in yourself," Leonard said.

Leonard is in Arizona as a boxing promoter for Sugar Ray Leonard Live Boxing. Friday will be the final fight in a series of three at the Desert Diamond Casino in Tucson.

Leonard fought 40 bouts throughout his career: 36 wins, one tie and 25 knockouts.

High school busing blues

Unruly youths warrant MP chaperons

BY PFC. JOY PARIANTE
SCOUT STAFF

Fort Huachuca military police officers got on the big yellow bus March 18 and headed back to school.

MPs have begun riding the Buena High School buses as they travel on Fort Huachuca to help students "get a fresh start on proper bus behavior," said Javier Barron, post school liaison officer.

Barron was informed of bus misbehavior by Sierra Vista School District transportation director. The district had used all their influence and capacity, Barron said, and they decided to enlist the post's help. Misbehavior on school buses distracts the driver and puts children's lives in danger.

There was no hesitation from the MPs when asked for their assistance as chaperons, Barron said.

One MP will ride bus 20 daily to and from the high school. Their job will be to observe the riders and make sure kids are obeying the policies of the bus, Barron said.

Maj. Gen. James "Spider" Marks, commanding general, U.S. Army Intelligence Center and Fort

Huachuca, sent a letter to all Fort Huachuca parents, informing them of the MP's presence and the reasons why.

"The safety of our children is matter of great concern to me, both as a parent and commander," the letter reads. "In the interest of good order and discipline, this command will not tolerate unruly or disrespectful behavior on Sierra Vista School District buses."

Post students caught misbehaving will be subject to an installation youth council hearing. Both parent and student must attend the hearing, and the council will recommend that certain actions be taken depending on the severity of the offense, Barron said. Punishments

can be as severe as a recommendation to the garrison commander that the family be removed from government quarters.

Disciplinary problems from Sierra Vista students, who also ride the buses, will be handled by school district procedures, Barron said.

The MPs will ride the buses until the end of the school year, Barron said. The post and school district goal is that the good behavior concept will carry over into next year.

"There is a lot of command influence for this project," Barron said. "The CG [commanding general] will not tolerate misbehavior on school buses. Transportation is a privilege, not a right. We need to make sure kids stay safe to and from school."

Signal Soldiers receive citation

Troops decorated for supporting Marines in Iraq

BY SGT.
M. WILLIAM PETERSEN
11TH SIGNAL BRIGADE PUBLIC
AFFAIRS CHIEF

The Soldiers of 86th Signal Battalion and C Company, 40th Signal Battalion were awarded the Naval Presidential Unit Citation March 24 on Brown Parade Field for their support during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The units were awarded the citation for supporting I Marine Expeditionary Force. The ceremony marked the 34th time the Naval Presidential Unit Citation

has been presented since its creation, and the first time it has been awarded since 1968.

To represent the Marine Corps, Lt. Gen. Robert M. Shea, director of Command, Control, Communications and Computer Systems for the Joint Staff, hung the streamer on each unit's guidon.

"A Presidential Unit Citation carries accolades of the commander in chief. Few units receive this award," Shea said.

As a Marine Corps communicator, Shea identified the crucial need for flexible, dependable

and rapid communications on the battlefield.

"I can't state the absolute necessity of things taken for granted at home, like picking up a phone and having a dial tone ... It becomes a matter of life and death," Shea said. "You were truly an enabler on the battlefield."

Both part of 11th Signal Brigade, C Co. 40th Sig. Bn. and 86th Sig. Bn. were presented battle streamers along with IMEF for their accomplishments in Iraq from March 21 to April 24.

"These Soldiers represent the 1,800 members of the 11th Sig. Bde. Thunderbirds, most of whom have been deployed for a very long time, and all of whom have answered the nation's call in the Global War on Terrorism," said Col. Brian R. Hurley, commander of 11th Sig. Bde. "This demonstrates our true joint capability and, more importantly, recognizes the heroic efforts of these outstanding soldiers."

The secretary of the Navy - in the name of the president - awards the Naval Presidential Unit Citation to any ship, aircraft,

or naval unit, or any Marine Corps aircraft, detachment, or higher unit for outstanding performance in action against an armed enemy of the United States on or after December 7, 1941.

To justify the citation, the unit must have clearly rendered itself conspicuous by action of a character comparable to that which would merit the award of a Navy Cross to an individual. The citation is designated to recognize specific acts of heroism on the part of the unit acting as a team.

TeamTalk

Activities abound



BY
MAJ. GEN. JAMES
"SPIDER"
AND MARTY
MARKS

This gorgeous springtime weather definitely helps us all appreciate our wonderful southeastern Arizona home. Now – before the heat kicks into high gear – is the time to be enjoying the great outdoors. Take a hike, ride a bike, hit the links or the tennis courts, or get involved in an organized sports league. Just remember to think smart and be safe in whatever activity you're involved in!

There are plenty of opportunities right here on Fort Huachuca for safe, fun-filled outdoor activities. Programs run through our Recreation Services Division in the Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation are available for everyone's interests and abilities. The Scout and the Commander's Access Channel are great ways for us all to keep up on what's happening on and around our installation. Or, give the MWR folks a call at 533-2374 to find out what's going on. If you have children who want to get involved in organized sports, call Youth Services at 533-3027/3212.

As I mentioned in the last "Team Talk," this is the month of the military child. We have lots of super activities planned, and we sure hope you will be able to participate as part of our Fort Huachuca "family." The events kick off with the "Children's Champion" reception from 10 to 11:30 a.m. Monday at the LakeSide Activity Centre, which will recognize people on post and in the local community who have provided extra services to our youth. Hope you can be there.

Other special activities planned for the month include the annual Easter Egg hunt Sunda, "Art in the Park" on April 14 at Geronimo Field, where the kids can enjoy all kinds of fun, including finger painting, colored sand art, bead-ing, clean (??) mud, and goop and then

"Super Saturday" on April 17, which includes lots of great fun at Youth Services (like a pool tournament, foosball, street hoops and game tournaments). Sounds great, doesn't it?

In fact, New Beginnings Child Development Center and School Age Services have special activities and themes planned for every day this month. Just be sure to pick up a calendar and flyers at the front desks. If you need more information, call Sandy Sanders, chief of child and youth services, at 533-0461.

We're heading into a season of lots of leadership transitions here, and we want to stress to you all that continuity is our watchword as many of us depart Fort Huachuca and others come in to take our places. You all are what make this installation such an assignment of choice, and you all are what will ensure that the many great initiatives and programs that have begun and are ongoing here now will not be "lost in transition."

We understand that transition all too often means upheaval. Marty and I promise you all that we take this very seriously and are working on a transition plan to make this summer's leadership changeovers as smooth and as easy as possible. The new folks coming in will bring with them enthusiasm and great ideas, and we know you all will embrace their input to make the great things we've got going here even that much better. Together, let's maintain the momentum.

We are grateful that the 11th Signal Brigade has returned home safe and sound. Our heartfelt thanks to all those super Soldiers for doing their jobs so superbly. We're proud to claim them as part of our Fort Huachuca team.

Please remember to keep in your thoughts and prayers those who are still providing such selfless service for all of us in Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and all the other places around this globe where your United States military is engaged.

Marty and I are proud to be part of the Army team, and we're proud to have you all as part of the team. Thanks for everything you do.

Commentary

Today is prank day

Let your imagination run wild

BY NELL DRUMHELLER
SCOUT STAFF

With the Global War on Terrorism capturing the attention and emotions of people across America, especially those in uniform, a day of fun and folly may just what the doctor ordered.

Today is the day for silliness. While being in the military is serious business, I've learned that it is also the breeding place for fabulous practical jokes and pranks.

The history of April Fools Day, or All Fools Day, is unclear but may have begun in 1582 in France. Prior to that year, the new year was celebrated for eight days beginning on March 25 and culminating on April 1. King Charles IX introduced the Gregorian calendar, and New Year's day was moved to January 1.

With the lack of the Internet, electronic media and even print media, it took several years for the news of the new calendar to reach all of the people of France. Apparently Frenchmen are as reluctant to change as anyone else and so many opposed the new calendar and continued to celebrate the new year in the old-fashioned manner – over the years these celebrators became known as 'fools' and were made the butt of practical jokes. One thing led to another and before you knew (actually it took a couple of hundreds of

years), April Fool's Day became the international day when pranksters can let their imaginations run wild and the gullible are caught unaware.

I've seen, and helped with, some great practical jokes in my time. From hanging the wing commander's car keys on a prominent statue at an air force base in Korea to taping down all the desk tools in a co-worker's office. April Fool's Day is the one holiday that shouldn't cost much, except a good quotient of imagination.

A quick poll of co-workers told me that I'm not the only one with practical jokes on my mind today. One told me of an ongoing challenge between her and a younger sister that includes lingerie being hung out the window, eggs under the fitted sheet in a bed and the always popular plastic wrap pulled tightly across a toilet seat. Another remembers her husband's initial panic when his car had been moved out of the locked garage and was nowhere in sight [but she was still sleeping peacefully and innocently].

A couple of the people I work with think April Fool's Day should be banned. They feel it is cruel and heartless. They may have a point – of course they are at the top of the prank list today.

Letter To The Editor

Scouts thank post residents

Boy Scout Troop 431 and Cub Scout Pack 429, both of Fort Huachuca, thank Fort Huachuca residents for their outstanding support during a recent food drive. Troop 431 Scoutmaster Matthew Miller stated, "Post residents gave 2,050 pounds of food. This is the largest amount we have collected in the three years we have performed the food drive."

The Scouts placed plastic bags and a flyer on the doorstep of each home on Fort Huachuca and then returned later to collect the

donated food. Scout Andrew Mulcare said, "It was a long day but well worth all the effort after seeing the mountain of food we collected."

The food was donated to the local food bank at St. Vincent DePaul. According to Stan Garner, the food bank manager, the food raised will support the needs of 48 families. The food bank supports an average of 350 families per month with food boxes containing approximately 42 pounds of food.

The Scouts want to thank the Army and Air Force Exchange for donating supplies for the food drive. They also want to thank the residents of Fort Huachuca for their generous support of the food drive and their continued support of post scouting programs.

For more information on scouting programs available on Fort Huachuca call Miller at 458-9642 or 538-7268 or Assistant Scoutmaster David Tyler at 533-6603.

Scout On The Street

What is the best benefit of being in the military?



"Work days off.
Four-day
weekends."

Spc. Jason Hariston
Company B,
86th Signal Battalion



"Free rent."

Pfc. Jason Westfall
Company B, 305th Military
Intelligence Bn.



"Steady income and
steady
opportunities for
advancement."

Spc. Leanna McGuire
Company A, 86th Sig. Bn.



"Taking care of
families, especially
with making one
duty station for
seven years. I think
they do a lot with
families."

Pfc. Sean Sarniak
Company B, 305th MI Bn.



"The medical
benefits."

Sgt. Jennifer Henry
69th Sig. Company,
504th Sig. Bn.



"The military
experience.
Everybody should
go through that
once."

Sgt. Larry Johnson
Company D, 86th Sig. Bn.

The Fort Huachuca Scout

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Whole new world

Hands Across the Border brings kids from Mexico, Huachuca City together to check out UAVs

BY PFC. JOY PARIANTE
SCOUT STAFF

A cross-cultural classroom of Hands Across the Border visited the unmanned aerial vehicle maintenance center on Friday to expand their knowledge of flight.

Last month, students from Huachuca City took a trip to Mexico visiting two schools. They visited Bartolema school, kindergarten through fourth grade and Paulita school, seventh through ninth grade. They made kites with the Mexican schoolchildren and learned some things about flight.

The students also went on a nature treasure hunt to find native plants and animals of Mexico as well as learn how to identify the plants and animals in English and Spanish.

The Huachuca City school began planning how to reciprocate the good will and hospitality to the Mexican students and teachers who were coming to Arizona the following month.

When it came time to decide what the Mexican students would learn while they were in America, Sgt. 1st Class Harvey Winkleblack, UAV maintenance platoon sergeant and Hands Across the Border parent volunteer, suggested that, in line with the flight theme, the kids come visit the UAVs.

"We wanted them to see something they'd never even think about at home," said Winkleblack.

The classes toured the maintenance facility, the

UAV schoolhouse and the airstrip. For lunch, they all went up to Reservoir Hill for a picnic.

The program expands the horizons of the children from Huachuca City also. A lot of the exposure that

American kids get about Mexico has to do with border towns and undocumented alien occurrences, Winkleblack said. They're always seeing the Border Patrols, Winkleblack added. The visits to Mexico and the bonds they're forming with their buddies give them a different view of the Mexican culture.

"They get to see how

they [each other] live and they realize that we're not all that far apart," Winkleblack said.

The Hands Across the Border Foundation is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting schools and communities in improving cultural sensitivity and understanding among citizens of the border states of Mexico, Canada, and the United States. Locally, children from two schools in Alamos, Mexico, visit students at Huachuca City elementary once a year and vice versa, said Dawn McFadden, coordinator of Hands Across the Border at Huachuca City elementary and a sixth-grade teacher there. Children get 'buddied up' with classmates from across the border and, during the visits, children stay with their buddy's family from Wednesday through Sunday. They go to class with them and go on field trips to learn more about their friend's life and country.

Huachuca City children often discuss the differences between growing up in Mexico and growing up in America amongst themselves. "They really appreciate what they have," McFadden said.

"It also gets them familiarized with another culture," McFadden said. "Although there is a language barrier, there are still things they can learn from each other."

The Hands Across the Border program lasts from fifth-grade through eighth-grade and sometimes lasts through high school. Children keep in touch through letters and e-mail and many of the children have the same foreign pals all through their school years.



Photo by Pfc. Joy Pariente

While visiting the unmanned aerial vehicle facilities on post, students such as Carlos Sotelo, a sixth-grader at Bartolema school in Mexico, got to learn all about the little pilotless aircrafts.

Volunteer devoted to CDC

BY AMANDA BAILLIE
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

When Jeannie Ritts arrives for work every morning, she likes to start the day with a hug.

"If we didn't have Jeannie then it definitely wouldn't be the same here."

Chris Dilts,
food service coordinator,
Child Development Center

And boss Chris Dilts is more than happy to oblige because without Ritts, she says, things just wouldn't be the same.

For more than a quarter of a century Ritts has been making a valuable

contribution to the child-care facilities at Fort Huachuca.

Back in the 1970s she became a volunteer in the kitchens of the now demolished Merry Day Childcare Centre.

A few years later, in 1979, she was offered a job, which she retained when Merry Day closed and the New Beginnings Child Development Center opened in its place.

Twenty-five years later and Ritts, who has Down's syndrome, is still doing the job she loves.

She has also just celebrated another important milestone—her 50th birthday.

"If we didn't have Jeannie then it definitely wouldn't be the same here," said Dilts, the center's food service coordinator, who has worked with Ritts since 1980.

"All the staff know her and she contributes a lot. She is also very friendly and gets on well with other people."

Ritts, who lives in Sierra Vista, works five days a week, arriving at the center on Smith Street at 7 a.m. She is dropped off and picked up by her mother.

She helps to prepare the breakfasts for the children, who range from just six weeks to kindergarten age, and takes the milk carts to each of the classrooms.

Much of her morning is then spent cleaning dishes, which, unlike most of us, Ritts admits she enjoys.

In fact, she says she loves her job so much, she does not ever want to stop working.

Although she has limited communication skills, Ritts has few problems in getting herself understood.

She loves to talk and will keep on trying if people do not at first understand what she is saying.

"I think Jeannie has learned a lot since she has been working here," said Dilts. "We have tried to teach her to count, as well as the alphabet. I think that daily stimulation and having responsibility has helped her to grow."

If the center has a fire drill, then Ritts immediately heads for the infants' room to see if anyone needs her help.

"Everyone loves her, she has such an even temperament," added Dilts.

When she isn't working, Ritts enjoys regular trips to the gym and looking after her two pet dogs, but it is obvious that her time spent at the center is precious to her.

"She is here every single day and it is extremely rare for her to be ill," said Dilts. "She is the most dependable person I have ever employed."



Photo by Elizabeth Harlan

After 25 years of child-care volunteering, Jeannie Ritts, who works at the Child Development Center, still enjoys cleaning dishes, preparing meals for the kids and greeting her boss with a hug in the morning.



Service News

Future of Navy leadership

Sailors performing leadership roles above their pay grade are not uncommon. To make sure these sailors get the right leadership training at the right time, the Revolution in Navy Training's Center for Naval Leadership is now aligning leadership training to the job sailors perform and not to their rank.

The Leadership Development Program now allows all sailors E-3 and above, and officially assigned to an organizational leadership position, to participate in the development of professional leadership.

The NAVADMIN 069/04, released March 24, describes the new Enlisted Leadership Development Programs, and identifies the attendance policy and implementation details.

The NAVADMIN further states that LDP completion will have career, assignment and detailing implications.

To learn more about the Leadership Continuum, and to access online leadership learning resources, visit the Center for Naval Leadership page on Navy Knowledge Online at www.nko.navy.mil

Installation Excellence Award winners

Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld has announced the winners of the 2004 Commander in Chief's Annual Award for Installation Excellence. They are:

- ◆ Fort Stewart, Hinesville, Ga.
- ◆ Marine Corps Air Station, Miramar, San Diego, Calif.
- ◆ Naval Air Engineering Station, Lakehurst, N.J.
- ◆ Beale Air Force Base, Marysville, Calif.
- ◆ Defense Supply Center Columbus, Columbus, Ohio

The award recognizes the outstanding and innovative efforts of the people who operate and maintain U.S. military installations. The five recipients of this highly competitive presidential award were selected for their exemplary support of Department of Defense missions.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the award. The winners will be recognized at a ceremony scheduled for Friday, May 7, in the Pentagon Center Courtyard.

New Corps' base names

In an effort to put an Iraqi face on the Corps' mission, Marines recently cast off the Army's monikers for their new homes, replacing most of them with indigenous names.

In an order issued March 25, Lt. Gen. James T. Conway, I Marine Expeditionary Force's commanding general, directed that all base names be changed immediately.

"We're trying to show that we're not here as an occupying force," said Lt. Col. Nick Marano, I MEF's deputy current operations officer at Camp Fallujah. "We respect their culture, traditions and names."

To connect with the local communities, the new camps' names are associated with the local urban or geographical areas that they are near, the order explained.

Not to ignore their own roots, though, Marines will hold on to a portion of their own culture.

Camp Baharia, east of Fallujah, is specifically named after the Marine Corps.

The Arabic word for the Marine Corps is 'mushaat al-baharia,' which translates into 'walkers of the navy' or naval infantry.

When written in Arabic, it looks almost like the phrase "with freedom."

Countries join NATO alliance

The Allied Air Forces Northern Region commander welcomed seven new nations as full members of the NATO alliance March 29 at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, raising the number of countries in the alliance from 19 to 26.

The new countries joined after a process that started at the November 2002 Prague Summit when NATO's heads of state agreed to invite them into accession talks.

Of the countries, Slovakia, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania will come under the umbrella of NATO's northern region, while Bulgaria, Romania and Slovenia will join the southern region.

This will be the fifth expansion in the alliance's history: Greece and Turkey joined in 1952; Germany in 1955; Spain in 1982; and the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland in 1999.

ANG welcomes new command chief

Confident that he still has a lot to give to this country, Chief Master Sgt. Richard Smith is preparing to move from his home in rural Lexington, Ohio, to Washington, D.C. to become the ninth command chief master sergeant of the Air National Guard.

"My appetite to serve is still there," said Smith, 52, who on Aug. 1 will succeed Chief Master Sgt. Valerie Benton as the senior advocate for the Air National Guard's 97,000 enlisted Airmen. He will work for Lt. Gen. Daniel James III, ANG director.

Smith is a traditional guardsman, who will leave his position as command chief master sergeant of the Ohio ANG to succeed Benton, who has held the ANG's top enlisted position since June 7, 2001.

Although he has remained a traditional guardsman since enlisting in 1971, the chief has worked virtually fulltime, about 300 days a year, as Ohio's command chief, he said. That was possible because he retired after 28 years in the banking business in 1998.

Smith served in the medical field during his first 27 years in uniform, and he was the chief of medical services for the 317th Contingency Hospital in England for the first three months of 1991.

BORSTAR underway

Border Patrol trains in search, rescue, trauma



The Global Positioning System is a worldwide radio-navigation system formed from a constellation of 24 satellites and their ground stations. GPSs can measure distance, gauge travel time and map and track navigational coordinates.

BY PFC. JOY PARIANTE
SCOUT STAFF

Seasoned Border Patrol agents are training to save lives at the Border Patrol Search, Trauma and Rescue academy, held this training cycle at Fort Huachuca.

After at least two years as an agent, academy hopefuls must pass a

physical fitness test with at least seven pull-ups, 40 push-ups, 60 sit-ups and a 12 minute mile and a half run, pass a field skills test and undergo an oral interview, said Kelly Kirby, deputy commander for the Tucson sector of BORSTAR. The Tucson Border Patrol sector covers everywhere from Douglas to Ajo.

The qualified agents are then shipped off to one of

the BORSTAR national academies, located all over the United States, Kirby said.

The agents will undergo five weeks of search and rescue training, including emergency medical procedures; rope work on a rock face and a helicopter; land navigation; survival techniques and, of course, physical conditioning.

The course trains agents to be first responders, who treat and sustain a victim until a Life Flight unit or an ambulance arrives, Kirby said.

They receive this training to help other agents, civilians and even undocumented immigrants along the southern border where there is little emergency medical coverage, he explained.

The first BORSTAR detachment appeared in San Diego in 1998, and in 1999, Tucson started their BORSTAR team. BORSTAR trained for the first time at Fort Huachuca in 1999.

The academy is looking to adopt Fort Huachuca as a permanent training location, Kirby said. The variation in terrain and altitude is ideal for the training the agents need.

The altitude increases the difficulty of PT, and the desert environment paired with snow-capped mountains is perfect for practicing various survival techniques.

"It's [Fort Huachuca] a great training venue," Kirby said. "It covers everything they'll ever operate in."

Throughout the academy, the agents will endure rigorous training with little time off, Kirby said. This is to simulate search and rescue operations that last for days at a time.

The agents have physical fitness training twice a day, Kirby said. One hour a day is ground PT with running and muscular strength training. Another hour is spent in the pool using the Navy and Coast Guard Search and Rescue Swimmer program, Kirby said.

The BORSTAR academy is loosely based on the training concepts of military Special Forces, Kirby said. For the first 10 days, the academy is similar to basic training. The agents do everything as a unit and go everywhere with a buddy. They have no days off, no privileges and they have to live in barracks rooms.

"The mental and physical stress is applied to see how they react," Kirby said. "To see if they're the kind of person you want on your team."

This BORSTAR class started with 47 agents, and

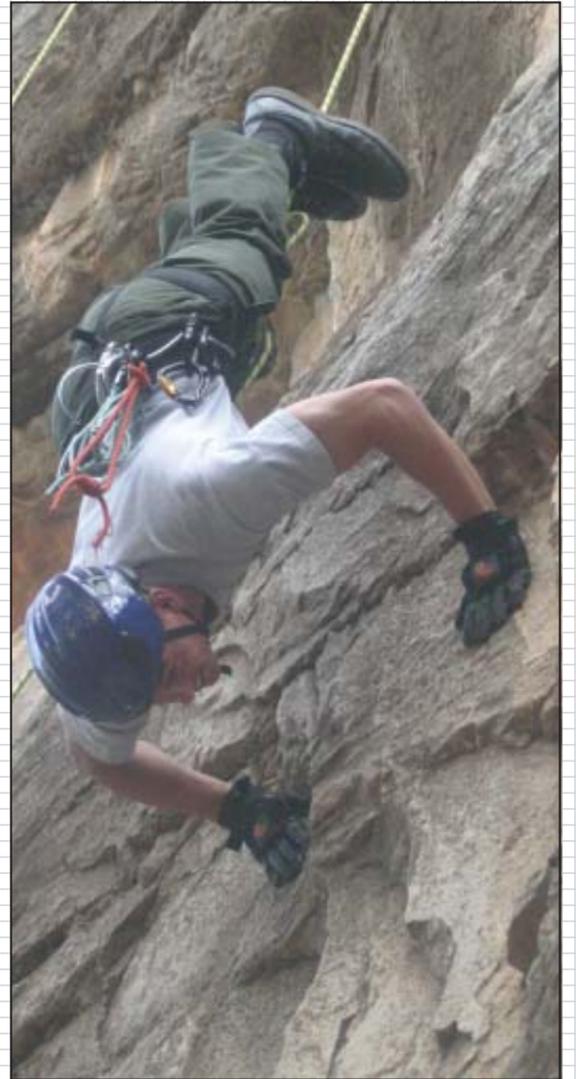
at week three they were down to 28 agents still training, Kirby said.

After training, the agents will return to their home sectors to join the BORSTAR team for more advanced training and to work on enforcement, search and rescue. Many agents will go forward to emergency medical technician training upon returning home, Kirby said. Agents

also get detailed out for national operations.

There are Border Patrol agents on every U.S. border, from the eastern and western seaboard and the southern and northern borders, Kirby said.

Their mission is to control anything illegal from crossing U.S. borders, either people or contraband.



Agents in training were challenged to flip upside down, mid-descent, and show off their push-up skills. Senior Patrol Agent Michael Nunn works his triceps with confidence and ease.



Rappelling off 40-foot rock faces in Garden Canyon is just another day in the classroom for agents such as Senior Patrol Agent Harold Ortega.



Deep within Site Uniform, agents came upon a mock casualty of unknown circumstances. Senior Patrol Agents Victor Mendoza, left, and Ortega practice basic lifesaving procedures such as breathing assistance, splinting fractures and controlling bleeding.

Photos by Pfc. Joy Pariente

Army News

Aviation unveils life without Comanche

BY SGT. 1ST CLASS MARCIA TRIGGS
ARMY NEWS SERVICE

The Army's aviation fleet is undergoing a total overhaul, and the main priority is increasing survivability to protect the aircraft and the Soldiers it carries.

In the near future, helicopters in Iraq, Afghanistan and Kuwait will be equipped with Ballistic Protection Blankets, Missile Approach Detectors, Countermeasure Sets and Radar and Laser Detecting Sets, a Pentagon official said.

"We're going to ask industry what weapon systems our potential adversaries may have, and we're going to be very innovative in how we deal with those threats," said a senior official from the Deputy Chief of Staff of Operations, G3, during the Army Aviation Association of America Annual Convention.

Aviators, crewmen, commanders and the technology community gathered to unfold the Army's aviation transformation plan in Nashville, Tenn., March 24-27. By 2011, the Army will purchase 796 new aircraft, upgrade the current fleet to be more survivable, lethal and agile and work with the Marines to develop the Joint Multi-Role Helicopter.

During a four-and-a-half month study, members on the Army Aviation Task Force made more than 120 recommendations on how to turn aviation brigades into joint and expeditionary forces that are modular units of action. The total bill comes out to \$12.8 billion, the Pentagon official said.

Out of the recommendations came the idea to develop three new aircraft — a light utility helicopter, an armored reconnaissance helicopter and a cargo aircraft.

"It would be premature to talk about what the helicopters are going to look like. Right now we're in the capabilities phase," said the G3 official.

In a concerted effort Fort Rucker, Ala., Training and Doctrine Command and the Headquarters Department of the Army Staff will decide on the capabilities they want, and then let industry meet the niche, said the G3 official.

A more immediate addition to the aviation ranks will be unmanned aerial vehicles. The Army was given three I-GNAT UAVs as a congressional plus up and right now two are deployed to Iraq.

It's not just about I-GNAT, UAVs in general are a great contribution to the war fighter, the Pentagon official said.

They perform reconnaissance and surveillance missions, and are becoming more and more important, the official added.

The Army will spend \$390 million toward UAV acceleration. Currently in the Central Command area there are Ravens, which are tactical UAVs used at the platoon level. The smaller UAVs are referred to as Shadow and the larger ones, I-GNAT and Hunter, are used at division and brigade level.

The Chief of Staff of the Army Gen. Peter Schoomaker advised the Aviation Task Force to improve survivability, increase deploy ability, optimize capabilities and shorten the logistics tail, the Pentagon official said.

Now the aviation field is following the infantry's example of the Stryker by creating a

cockpit" referred to as the Common Avionics Architecture System or CAAS.

By placing common hardware and software in three of the regiment's aircraft, training was simplified and the logistics demands on the unit were reduced, the G3 official said. The open avionics architecture also will make it easier to upgrade the aircraft with third-party vendor software.

The use of CAAS by the conventional Army is one of 17 initiatives that will be adopted from the Special Operations community, the G3 official said.

"We always want the 160th to be the premier aviation force in the Army," said the G3 official. "We always want them well ahead of the conventional force."

Schoomaker, who has served with both conventional and Special Operations forces, challenges the aviation community to use Special Operations initiatives that can be sustained and resourced, the G3 official said.

The need to purchase and upgrade the current fleet is the reason behind the Comanche termination, officials said.

"Had we not terminated the Comanche, I would be absolutely concerned," the G3 official said. "By 2011 we would have had to cut our aviation fleet by a sizable number."

At the termination of the Comanche, only two aircraft had been built, and \$6.9 billion spent since 1983, said the Pentagon official. If the Army had continued to fund the program it would cost \$14.6 billion more to purchase 121 aircraft by 2011 and up to \$2 billion more to add the survivability equipment that is being added to the rest of the Army's fleet, the official added.

However, the technology that was developed for the Comanche will not be lost, but will be harvested in the Joint Multi-Role Helicopter.

"We needed a place where we could take the Comanche technology and ensure that it was retained. We also wanted to make sure that we had an initiative where we could work with the joint community," the Pentagon official said.

The goal is to work through a joint solution with the Marine Corps and decide on a new rotorcraft by 2020 or 2025, the official added.

Transformation plans for the aviation field complement the combined arms fight, the G3 official said. If you take any one weapon system, a Bradley, Abrams or UAV and put it up against an enemy, the enemy will learn to deal with it, the official said. It's a combination of all those weapon systems, the official added.



common cockpit." Like the Stryker, which has 10 variants but same or similar parts, helicopters will share the same hardware and software.

In 2003, the 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment, Fort Campbell, Ky., implemented their version of "common

Health News

AMEDD hunts for civilian professionals

BY HARRY NOYES

U.S. ARMY MEDICAL COMMAND

In the Global War on Terrorism, a vital measure of victory for Army Medicine will be to deliver on its promise of seamless care for Soldiers, retirees and families in the homeland. It won't be easy. A fast-paced OPTEMPO keeps taking health professionals away from stateside Army hospitals and sending them to the theater of operations. To master this challenge, an unheralded team of personnel experts and plans officers at Headquarters U.S. Army Medical Command is exploiting every

nook and cranny of obscure regulations to cut red tape and bring experienced Army Medical Department veterans (military and civilian) back as civilian employees for as short or long a time as needed.

For many months, the Army Medical Department's go-to-war system worked well. Active Army physicians, nurses and medical technicians did their Professional Filler System duty, leaving U.S. Army Medical Command hospitals to serve in field units overseas.

In turn, many Army Reservists mobilized to "back-fill" MEDCOM facilities. Other, specialized units came on active duty to provide medical support for mobilization/demobilization of other Reservists at "power-projection" installations, so that MEDCOM medical personnel did not have to assume this added workload.

But now the reservoir of Army medical professionals is no longer overflowing. Regulations to protect Reservists' medical practices and Reserve retention are beginning to kick in. Many Reservists have done their duty and more and are beginning to be demobilized.

As the next overseas rotation gets under way, with its demands for new field medical people, where will the next back-up shift come from?

To meet this challenge, the MEDCOM's civilian personnel division, directorate of operations, and marketing office developed an intensely focused, high-energy program to hire hundreds of civilian health-care personnel.

The program's ingredients are not new, but the determination to use them to the max gives the effort a new synergy.

They call that effort the "Centralized Civilian Recruitment Program in Support of the Global War on Terrorism," but the title is ironic because decentralized execution is the key to success.

What is centralized is the concept, marketing effort, and a toll-free number (1-800-633-3646) that interested parties anywhere can call.

"We have a single marketing plan to fill our jobs with high-quality individuals quickly," said Jo Ann Robertson, chief of CPD.

Is it working?

"We are already getting 1-800 calls," she said. "Not as many as we'd like but some."

How many people does the AMEDD need?

"You can say 1,400...today," Lt. Col. John Shero of the operations directorate said. "But that is a moving target."

It's not a case of officials being unable to do the math. It's the fact that the needs themselves keep shifting, as decisions on mobilizations, demobilizations and deployments evolve.

A central facet of the plan is a series of job fairs focused on medical recruiting, beginning at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, on March 24, and then at various other installations across the United States.

But the execution of the job fairs and the hiring that results is very much decentralized.

That's because the AMEDD is taking systematic advantage of an overlapping assortment of "direct hire" options. Direct hire, which minimizes delay and paperwork, is inherently decentralized.

"In layman's terms, 'direct hire' means 'on the spot' hiring," explained Robertson.

"A prospective employee can bring in his or her license and resume and the manager can hire the person on the spot," she said.

Not all jobs are covered by direct-hire authority. Only 13 critical health specialties are, but they represent 70 percent of AMEDD needs, Robertson said.

However, some of the other 30 percent of needs (e.g., nursing assistants)

See MEDICAL, Page 6



On-site inspection results in lab accreditation

Raymond W. Bliss Army Health Center Department of Pathology, Fort Huachuca, Ariz. has been awarded an accreditation by the Commission on Laboratory Accreditation of the College of American Pathologists, based on the results of a recent on-site inspection.

The laboratory's director, Dr. Michael P. White, chief of Internal Medicine, was advised of this national recognition and con-

gratulated for the "excellence of the services being provided." Raymond W. Bliss Army Health Center Department of Pathology is one of the more than 6,000 CAP-accredited laboratories nationwide.

The CAP Laboratory Accreditation Program, begun in the early 1960s, is recognized by the federal government as being equal to or more stringent than the government's own inspection program.

During the CAP accreditation process, inspectors examine the laboratory's records and quality control of procedures for the preceding two years. CAP inspectors also examine the entire staff's qualifications, the laboratory's equipment, facilities, safety program, and records, as well as the overall management of the laboratory. This stringent inspection program is designed to specifically ensure the highest standard of care

for the laboratory's patients.

The CAP is a medical society serving nearly 16,000 physician members and the laboratory community throughout the world. It is the world's largest association composed exclusively of pathologists and is widely considered the leader in laboratory quality assurance. The CAP is an advocate for high-quality and cost-effective medical care.

Community Updates

Range closures

Today – AA, AC, AD, AG, AH, AK, AL, AM, AR, AU, AW, T1, T1A, T2

Friday – AA, AC, AD, AH, AK, AL, AR, AU, AW, AX, AY, T1, T1A, T2

Saturday – AC, AD, AQ, AU, AV, AW, AX, AY, T1, T1A, T2

Sunday – AQ, AT, AU, AV, AW, AX, AY, T1, T1A, T2

Monday – AC, AD, AH, AK, AL, AQ, AR, AU, AV, AW, AX, AY, T1, T1A, T2

Tuesday – AC, AD, AH, AK, AL, AR, AU, AH, AK, AL, AR, AU, T1, T1A, T2

Wednesday – AC, AD, AH, AK, AL, AM, AR, AU, AW, T1, T1A, T2

For more information, call Range Control 533-7095.

Scholarships available

The Fort Huachuca Community Spouses Club is offering scholarships to high school seniors. The scholarships are open for college, vocational and trade schools and for continuing education. Applications are due today.

For more information, call 439-4402.

Korea orientation

Army Community Service is offering a Korea orientation at 6 p.m. today at Murr Community Center for Soldiers and family members going to Korea for the first time.

For more information, call Pam Allen at 533-5919/2330.

Financial readiness classes

Army Community Service will offer lunch-time financial readiness classes Wednesdays in April, noon - 1 p.m. at Murr Community Center. The upcoming topics will be: Wednesday, credit wise; April 14, thrift savings plan; April 20, checkbook management (this class will end at 1:30 p.m.); and April 28, budget/family supplemental subsistence allowance.

You are invited to bring your lunch to these classes.

College for military members

A Southwestern College Representative will be on post 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Wednesday at the Education Center, Building 52104. Southwestern College offers eight undergraduate majors completely online. Learn about their military tuition discount for Active Duty and their spouses, Guard, and Reserve, their progressive transfer policy, and six week online classes.

For more information, visit www.sckans.edu, call toll-free 888-684-5335 ext. 220 or e-mail at military@sckans.edu.

Combat Service Support conference

Maj. Gen. Terry E. Juskowiak, commander of the Army Combined Arms Support Command, will host the 2004 Combat Service Support commanders' and command sergeants' major conference, beginning at 2 p.m. April 8 - 9 at the Fort Lee Club, Fort Lee, Va.

For more information, visit www.cascom.army.mil/

2004 CSS Cdrs Conf/index.htm or e-mail csscdrcsmconf@lee.army.mil.

Road work

The Contract Management Division of the Directorate of Installation Support is repairing driveways in Deanza Village and repairing Meyer Street between H Avenue and Rucker Street. Construction is expected to be finished by April 9. Housing occupants will be able to have vehicular access to their quarters during construction.

For more information, call 533-1443.

Controlled burns on ranges

Prescribed burns began March 12 and will last until April 11 on live fire ranges 5, 8 and 9 in Training Area T-2. These burns will decrease the potential for fire by reducing fuel loads and will help support live-fire exercises on the South Range. Approximately 730 acres will be burned.

Specific dates for the burns will depend on weather conditions and use of the ranges.

AFTB Level I class to be offered

Army Community Service will present Army Family Team Building Level I classes 5:30 - 9 p.m., April 13, 14 and 15 at Murr Community Center, Building 51301.

Please register by calling ACS, 533-2330, or for more information, call Christine Bachand, 533-6884.

Doolittle Tokyo Raiders 62nd Reunion

The Doolittle Tokyo Raiders will hold their 62nd Reunion, April 14-18, in Tucson. Members of the Doolittle Tokyo Raiders reunite each year to support worthy causes.

This year, many of the 17 surviving Raiders will make public appearances to raise money for the Arizona Aerospace Foundation, the Community Food Bank, and SciEnTeK-12 – a non-profit organization that supports the Southern Arizona Regional Science and Engineering Fair. The Raiders will also present a \$5,000 scholarship to a deserving local student.

Public events during the reunion include a charity luncheon, dinner and Western dance, "Meet the Heroes" BBQ, gala reception and dinner, book signings and sales.

For more information, go to www.doolittle62.com or call 546-6975.

Fellowship opportunity in Washington, D.C.

The International Foundation for Election Systems is accepting applications for the 2004 William and Kathy Hybl Democracy Studies Fellowship Program, which was designed to bring outstanding graduate students to Washington, D.C. for research in democratic development, elections administration and civic participation in the political process. Hybl Fellows receive a stipend of \$1,800.

Application information may be found online at http://www.ifes.org/research_comm/hybl.htm. All applications must

be received by April 22, 2004. Fellowships shall be awarded in June.

For more information, go to <http://www.ifes.org> or call Jeff Brady, IFES Fellowship Coordinator, at 202-872-4806 or by email at jbrady@ifes.org.

Leave donation requested

Leave donation is being requested for post employee Caren Weeks, who had neurosurgery Feb. 20. The recovery time is 6-8 weeks, and her leave time is exhausted. Those who can donate leave time to Weeks should come by Hitt Hall, Bldg 81401, Room 113 (across from the mini-mall) and fill out a 630-A leave form. Forms can also be filled out and faxed to 3-2553.

For more information, call Patsy Gentzler at 533-6645 or e-mail gentzlerp@us.army.mil.

Scholarship for JROTC

The San Pedro Chapter #95 of the Women's Army Corps Veterans Association wants to remind senior JROTC students at Buena High School to get a scholarship application from their counselor as soon as possible. The scholarship will be awarded in May.

Childcare training

Fort Huachuca Family Child Care is now accepting applications for the next training class that begins April 19. The training is from 8 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Family members 18 and older interested in earning an extra income by caring for children in their home should plan to attend. Training is free and class size is limited.

For more information, call 533-2498 or send an email to fcc@hua.army.mil.

Scholarship honors local soldier killed in Iraq

A new scholarship fund held by the Cochise College Foundation honors Sgt. M. Matthew Merila, a Buena High School graduate who died recently while serving in the war in Iraq.

The Sgt. M. Matthew Merila Memorial Scholarship was established by an anonymous donor. It will award \$1,000 per year – or one \$500 scholarship per semester – to a Buena High School graduating senior who demonstrates financial need, holds a 3.0 or higher grade point average and plans to attend Cochise College.

To contribute to or apply for the Sgt. M. Matthew Merila Memorial Scholarship, call the Cochise College Foundation at 417-4100.

Toilet rebates

Sierra Vista residents who have owned their homes before 1994 and who want to replace older toilets with low water flow toilets may qualify for toilet rebates. Those who apply and are selected could receive up to \$200 to replace two toilets.

For information, call Marge Petrillo, City of Sierra Vista at (520)458-5775.

Kubs

March's COM named



Trent D. Fields

Courtesy photo

Trent D. Fields, Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security, is the Fort Huachuca March Civilian of the Month.

Also nominated in March was Janet Cass, Morale, Welfare and Recreation. Fields will receive the use of a car for one month from Lawley Chevrolet; gift certificates from Sierra Vista merchants; a desk plaque; an MWR certificate for lunch or dinner from a Fort Huachuca establishment; a wall plaque from the Sierra Vista Chamber of Commerce; and his name, as civilian of the month, posted at the Main Gate.

Supervisors are encouraged to nominate their deserving employee for Fort Huachuca civilian of the month. All permanent appropriated fund and nonappropriated fund employees are eligible with the exception of employees officially assigned as supervisors (GS-10 and above) and senior executive service personnel. For more information, call 533-5282.

MEDICAL, from Page 5

are also vitally important and will be a focus of the job fairs, even though they are not eligible for DHA and normal civilian hiring procedures will be used.

Few current openings are permanent jobs, since the concern is backfilling positions vacated by Active and Reserve Soldiers.

Appointments will mostly be temporary (up to two years) or term (up to four years).

For individuals who want longer-term employment, Robertson says, there are two possibilities.

First, some temporary appointments may be extended one year, when needed. Second, there is a normal turnover rate among civilservice "medicals" (to use civilian personnel parlance) so an appointee might later be able to move into a permanent job when an opening appears.

The big question is whether it will work well enough to fill all the AMEDD's gaps.

The job market for medicals is very competitive, civilian personnel officials recognize, and

this program has no extra resources to offer to candidates.

Those hired will get the same salary rates, bonuses, relocation allowances, etc., that other civilservice health care professionals in their specialties receive.

The AMEDD offers other satisfactions, e.g., patriotism, a chance to practice "pure" medicine without worries about business management, malpractice insurance, etc. Managers hope that will help entice a sufficient number of high-quality professionals into Army service.

AWARD, from Page 1

The 11th Sig. Bde. is headquartered at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., and provides tactical communications capabilities such as se-

cure and non-secure phones, Internet, video teleconferencing and satellite communications. Thunderbird Soldiers supported Operation Iraqi Freedom from

sites throughout Southwest Asia including Iraq and Kuwait, and some are still deployed in support of the Global War on Terror.

Fort will host GIPC

BY KAREN GOLD AND PATSY NYDER

US ARMY CECOM CSLA

The US Army Communications-Electronics Command, Communications Security Logistics Activity is hosting its 13th annual Global Information Security Partnership Conference May 4-6 here.

The conference theme for this year is "Security Technologies: Evolving to Meet the Challenges of Today and Tomorrow."

The GIPC is a training conference designed to promote a professional exchange of current INFOSEC, COMSEC and information assurance between COMSEC custodians, signal officers, warrant officers, senior noncommissioned officers, COMSEC maintenance officers, accountable officers, serialization officers, INFOSEC program managers, Department of the Army/major command staff officers, and others working in the INFOSEC field. To attend the conference, you must be a United States citizen and have a security clearance of secret or higher.

As in times past, this one-of-a-kind conference, which merges a military collaboration developed directly for the Soldier in the field with an extended focus on our joint war fighters, will cover a wide range of topics addressing both current and future INFOSEC equipment acquisitions, COMSEC auditing, policy and procedures, security, threat, protective technologies, and many others.

The conference presentations and information sharing are achieved through workshops, lectures, hands-on opportunities, individual discussions and displays provided by a cadre of CSLA, other DoD,

and contractor representatives. All presentations, workshops and displays will be conveniently co-located at Fort Huachuca's Greely Hall, Building 61801.

The conference fee is \$75 per person. This fee covers all conference sessions, workshops, presentations, and briefings, but does not cover the cost for social events, such as the GIPC icebreaker and luncheon.

Due to the popularity of the conference and space constraints, CSLA is forced to limit attendance to the first 325 registered attendees. The GIPC Website is now open for on-line conference and workshop registration, accepting credit card payment. Just log on to www.gipccsla.com where you will find the necessary tools to register for both the conference and workshops (along with workshop synopses to help you in your selections) and for on-line payments. An announcement is also posted on the Headquarters, DA G2 Web site: <https://daispom-odcsint.us.army.mil/comsec.asp>.

For more information about this conference, use the following specialized points of contact:

For Web site information: Sydney Torres, (520) 538-7529, e-mail: sydney.torres@csla.army.mil or Gloria Henderson, (520) 538-8341, e-mail: gloria.henderson@csla.army.mil. For lodging, airlines, and rental car information: David Ingram, 533-8771, e-mail: david.ingram@csla.army.mil.

For workshop information: David Ingram, 533-8771, e-mail: david.ingram@csla.army.mil. To be a vendor exhibitor: Mike Calabrese, 538-6924, e-mail: michael.calabrese@csla.army.mil. For all other inquiries: Sydney Torres, 538-7529, e-mail: sydney.torres@csla.army.mil.

UAV crashes on post

BY JOAN VASEY

MEDIA RELATIONS SPECIALIST

An unmanned aerial vehicle crashed at approximately 9:45 p.m. March 23 near Hubbard Airfield near the East Range.

A Shadow 200 UAV being used during 1st Infantry Division training exercises was carrying a standard payload of camera equipment when it

crashed, according to Capt. Charles Crowell, an opera-



Army photo

A Shadow 200 UAV

tions officer with the Information Operations Center, Department of Plans, Training, Mobility and Security.

The aircraft recovery team located the crash site and aircraft, and is investigating the incident. Hazardous materials operations were not required, Crowell said.

The cause of the crash is under investigation.

