

# HAWAII ARMY WEEKLY

Vol. 34, No. 14

Serving the U.S. Army community in Hawaii

April 8, 2005

## What's Inside

- Commentary .....A-2
- News Briefs .....A-4
- 411th Engineers ....A-7
- Army News .....A-8
- Health .....A-10
- MWR .....B-2
- Family Night .....B-3
- Sports .....B-4

# Fox Battery named best in Army

By Staff Sgt. Bradley Rhen  
*CTF Thunder Public Affairs*

FORWARD OPERATING BASE SALERNO, Afghanistan — Enemy fighters in Afghanistan know Battery F, 7th Field Artillery Regiment, is good. Now everyone else does, too.

The battery, which is currently deployed to Afghanistan, was recently named the recipient of the 2004 Henry Knox Award as the best active component artillery battery in the U.S. Army.

The annual award is named after

Maj. Gen. Henry A. Knox, the first Chief of Field Artillery for the Continental Army during the Revolutionary War. A similar award was established in 1924, but was phased out in 1940 as World War II loomed.

The best battery award was re-established in 2002. Of the 19 winners in the history of the award, six have been units from Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

Capt. Brendan Raymond, Fox Battery commander, said it was an honor just to represent the 25th Infantry Division and its other field

artillery units.

"There are a lot of outstanding units doing a lot of outstanding things, and we were very fortunate to have been selected," he said.

When Fox Battery deployed to Afghanistan, in April 2004, it wasn't even slated to conduct an artillery mission. For the first few months of its deployment, Fox Battery was primarily a mortar battery, supporting infantry operations.

That changed in August when the battery's M198 155mm howitzers arrived from Hawaii. Since

then, the big guns have been at Forward Operating Base Salerno and forward locations ready to support ground forces or return fire on rocket attacks.

"What we ended up doing is we showed there was a need for it, and ... it was necessary to have artillery," Raymond said. "As we've continued to evolve, we've seen that there's more of a need for it in a low-intensity conflict than we ever thought before."

Fox's ability to fire accurately at targets in excess of 20 miles away

**See "Fox Battery," page A-7**



**500th MI Brigade**  
Unit preps for combat with realistic training  
A-6



**HAFAP Issues**  
Most of the 2004 action items are resolved  
A-8

**\$240,000**

For more information about AER, contact campaign staff: 1st Lt. Walter, Sgt Fowler or Sgt. Asetline at 655-2383 or e-mail [aercampaign@schofield.army.mil](mailto:aercampaign@schofield.army.mil)



**Basketball**  
HHC, 25th ID (L) crushes Medical Company A, TAMC  
B-5

## Watchful eyes



Spc. Justin Walker from 3rd Squad, 1st Platoon, Co. C, 2nd Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment, Task Force Bobcat, pulls security during a foot patrol of the surrounding area at Deh Rawod fire base, Uruzgan, Afghanistan, recently.

## Veterans get hiring preference

By Donna Miles  
*American Forces Press Service*

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Office of Personnel Management is working to make veterans' preference for federal jobs available to more veterans, including a new revised application that allows federal agencies to accept veterans' disability letters.

The revised Application for 10-Point Veteran Preference, Standard Form 15, is being posted directly on OPM's Web site, so agencies immediately can accept Veterans Affairs Department letters of disability, officials said.

Agencies, OPM examining offices and agency appointing officials use the online application to evaluate claims for veterans' preference on applications for government jobs.

The new revisions to the veterans' preference form bring it in line with VA policy, which generally considers disability letters issued since 1991 as proof of a permanent disability.

To further encourage veterans into the federal system, OPM also is continuing its Veterans' Invitational Program, visiting military bases and medical centers to explain veterans' preference and outline the procedures for applying for federal jobs.

Upcoming visits are planned for Cherry Point, N.C.; Camp Lejeune, N.C.; Bolling Air Force Base, Washington, D.C.; Fort Sam Houston and Fort Bliss, Texas; and Fort Lee, Va., officials said.

OPM Acting Director Dan G. Blair, who announced the initiatives, said they reflect OPM's "strong emphasis on the rights of veterans, including employment opportunities. We must ensure those who are eligible for veterans' preference receive the benefits to which they are entitled."

Veterans of the armed forces have received some degree of hiring preference for federal jobs since the Civil War.

Today's law, reflected in Veterans' Preference Code of 1944, as amended, and in Title 5 of the U.S. Code, ensures that veterans who are disabled or served on active duty in the military during certain specified time frames or campaigns receive preference in hiring from competitive lists of eligible applicants and gives preference in keeping jobs during reductions in force.

The purpose of veterans' preference, officials explained, is to recognize the economic loss suffered during military service, restore veterans to a favorable competitive position for government jobs, and acknowledge the debt owed to disabled veterans.

## HAFAP makes a difference — issue by issue

By Joy Boisselle  
*Staff Writer*

The Hawaii Army Family Action Plan, or HAFAP, Conference begins April 18 at Schofield Barracks. However, some in our community may not know what it is, how it works, and why they need to participate?

"HAFAP is the process used to improve quality of life for the total Army," said Robin Sherrod, Schofield Barracks community and family support program specialist and HAFAP coordinator. "It is a manner in which Soldiers can get the attention of the Department of the Army based on their [issue] input," she explained.

Twenty-five years ago, Army spouses expressed concern that leaders largely ignored quality of life issues. They proposed a forum where quality of life issues could be addressed to Army leadership and a mechanism be created where issues could be tracked and resolved.

A 22-year retired Army Soldier, Sherrod said, with a laugh, "The old adage was that if the Army didn't issue you one, or it didn't come in a duffel bag, you weren't supposed to have it and probably didn't need it."

Today, however, the prevailing mind-

set according to Sherrod is "the Army enlists Soldiers, but retains families."

HAFAP is a segment of the Army Family Action Plan program, which began in 1983. A spouse-driven, Army-unique initiative, AFAP is an annual process whereby quality of life issues are collected, reviewed, prioritized and resolved, beginning at the installation level. Unresolved issues continue up the chain to major commands and finally to the Department of the Army AFAP.

This year's HAFAP theme is "An Army at War — Relevant and Ready at Home and Abroad."

"Obviously we are an Army at war," Sherrod said regarding the theme's meaning. "If we want to have a relevant and ready Army, it's not just about what's happening at home with families."

During the last six months, HAFAP coordinators collected issues from across Hawaii and sought volunteers to participate in the upcoming conference.

"Our participants are broken down into delegates who actually work the issues, facilitators, recorders, support volunteers and subject matter experts," said Sherrod. "We expect nearly 150 participants who are representative of the total Army demographic, including reservists, active duty, civilians, family

members, retirees and teenagers."

Delegates are the workhorses of the process. They are subdivided into five work groups: base operations, force support, family services, community services and consumer services. Then, more than 125 locally submitted issues are separated into one of the five aforementioned groups.

The delegates' job is to take their group issues and decide which ones qualify as the "top three" explained Sherrod. Then selected issues are researched and possible resolutions are drafted.

On the last day of the conference, group leaders provide their findings to Maj. Gen. Eric T. Olson, commanding general, 25th Infantry Division (Light) and U.S. Army, Hawaii, and other key leaders.

Although the conference is officially over at that time, the actual issue resolution process will be just beginning. Continuing the conference efforts, a garrison HAFAP steering committee, headed by Col. Howard Killian, commander, U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii, meets quarterly to review submitted issues and provide the community with an updated status of ongoing actions.

Issues unresolved at the local level

**See "HAFAP," page A-8**

The Hawaii Army Weekly welcomes letters and commentaries from readers. To submit call the editor at 655-4816 or e-mail editor@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

The deadline for articles is the Thursday before the week of publication. Send all articles in Microsoft Word or text format.

# OPINION & COMMENTARY



Army Emergency Relief officers can authorize emergency food assistance at the post commissary. In most cases, assistance checks are made out to the agency requiring payment, not to the Soldier.

## Army Emergency Relief debunks myths, fiction

Story and Photo by  
Joy Boisselle  
Staff Writer

Georgianna McAnany, the Schofield Barracks Army Emergency Relief officer, "has seen it all and heard it all." With 28 years of AER experience behind her, she is the community's resident expert on matters pertaining to financial assistance under emergency conditions.

Even today, she said, there are many AER misconcep-

tions.

McAnany recently separated fact from fiction, as well as provided clarification about the program's capabilities when rendering assistance.

### Myth 1 - AER is only for junior enlisted active duty Soldiers.

No, AER assistance is for active duty Soldiers and their families, retirees, active National Guard and Reserve Soldiers, surviving spouses and orphans of deceased Army

Soldiers who died while on active duty.

### Myth 2 - AER funds can be used for anything I request.

No, very specific guidelines determine if assistance can be approved. Guidelines for determining assistance include an unforeseen and urgent need, the death of a family member, illness, natural disaster, auto repairs, food needs, utilities, rent and more. See "AER myths," page A-9

## Wills must matter during life

By Elaine Wilson  
Army News Service

FORT SAM HOUSTON, Texas — The Schiavo saga both captured and divided the nation as moral and legal questions were raised over the right to live or die.

While people remain at odds over the underlying issues, most are in consensus on one topic — the importance of living wills.

"We've had a huge increase over the past couple of months because of the Schiavo case," said Burton Brasher, Fort Sam Houston chief of client services. "We've probably done more in the past two months than we've done in the past year."

Brasher defines a living will as a legal document that expresses people's personal health care wishes when they're unable to.

"If you're incapacitated, a living will provides the doctor with guidance for your continued treatment," Brasher said.

This guidance includes decisions related to extraordinary measures to sustain life, a goal the doctor aims for in the absence of a living will.

"Doctors are trained to do everything they can to preserve life," Brasher said. "But not all people want to live like that, whether due to religious beliefs, personal convictions or financial reasons."

Living wills are particularly important for people heading into risky situations such as a combat zone or a medical procedure.

"It helps remove uncertainty," Brasher said. "We have a lot of doctors sending patients over here before surgeries. They recognize the importance of the document. The more a doctor knows, the better he can do his job."

No federal standard for living wills exists, so many states have developed their own format. Texas, for example, has two documents, both referred to as living wills. One is a Texas Directive to Physicians and the other is a spe-

cial Power of Attorney for Health Care.

The first expresses the patient's personal desires in advance, and the other designates a "decision-maker" who would decide on the measures taken to preserve life at a later time. Either document is legally binding, but Brasher said people who have both documents should make sure neither one conflicts with the other.

"Make sure your personal wishes and the person you designate as your decision-maker in the power of attorney are on the same page," he said.

Other states have just one document. And, in some states, organ donation is included in living wills, while the choice to donate is designated through the driver's license system in others.

Whatever the differences, Brasher recommends a living will based on where people live — whether a resident or not, to remove the "guesswork."

"It's best to have one for the state you live in or PCS [permanent change of station] to, so the local doctor has a document he's familiar with," he said.

However, since each state has its own format, the legal office can include a header that asks for the will to be recognized nationwide.

Another way to avoid potential problems is to update living wills every two to three years, so there's recent proof and "less questions raised about whether you still feel the same way as you did when you signed the document," Brasher said.

People also should talk to their health care providers, particularly when undergoing a medical procedure.

Any military legal assistance office can prepare living wills free of charge for active duty military, family members, retirees, and reservists on active duty for 30 days or longer.

(Editor's Note: For more information about starting a living will, contact the Legal Assistance Office at 655-8607.)

## 'We should not totally depend on human beings,' says AMR chaplain

Chaplain (Maj.) Norman W. Jones  
Fort Shafter Community Family Life

One of the core Army values is trust — integrity. However, the words trust, faith and belief are interrelated and dependent on each other. You cannot have one without the other; they coexist together as one concept.

You cannot have trust in a person, relationship, a spiritual being or a thing unless you believe and have faith that the person or thing is trustworthy. To trust someone or thing is to depend, rely or have confidence in the person or thing.

For example, before I sit in a chair, I first believe and have confidence that the chair can sustain all of my 152

pounds of dead weight. I am not going to sit in the chair unless I trust that it hold up its "end of the bargain."

Whether we realize it or not, we all live by faith: faith in someone, in self, in material things or a supernatural being. The believer, evolutionist, agnostic, atheist, philosopher and scientist all live by faith.

Not everything we believe in though can be proven in a lab. For example, no one can prove or disprove the existence of God.

We trust what we believe in is true and trust-worthy, so we live by faith.

I believe it takes more faith to believe that God does not exist than to believe that he exists. I also believe that the burden of proof rests on the

unbeliever.

Furthermore, I believe it takes more faith to believe that the universe and the perfect law of nature were created by an accident than to believe that God is the creator and sustainer of life and creation.

The bottom line is that all of us place our faith and trust either in self, in something or in someone.

The psalmist David said in Psalm 146:3, "Do not put your trust in princes or mortal man in whom there is no salvation."

I do not think that David is saying that we should not trust people period.

If that's the case, we would all be living as hermits, isolated, with no true feeling of connectedness. We would all

be doubters, cynics and agnostics.

I believe what David was saying is that we should not totally depend on human beings to meet our needs.

When we place all our trust and hope in a doctor, chaplain, counselor, lawyer, teacher, spiritual leader, friend, neighbor or loved one, we set ourselves up for disappointment, failures and frustration.

The Scripture says in Proverbs 3:5 (New American Standard version) to "Trust in the Lord with all of your heart and do not lean on your own understanding."

We can trust Him because He will never fail us.

We can trust the Lord to give us direction in our lives. We can trust His

words because He is faithful and true.

We can trust Him to give us hope in a hopeless situation, to grant us forgiveness when we sin and to give us comfort and peace when our hearts are troubled.

When we depend on people, money, drugs, alcohol, sex and status to make us happy, we soon find out those things are limited in fulfilling our needs. They only serve as temporary fixes to a greater need.

God is the only one who is able and willing to meet our needs.

Why not trust Him today?

(Editor's Note: Contact Chaplain Jones at the Aliamanu Military Reservation Chapel at 836-4599.)

## Voices of Lightning: What's a 'must-do' for anyone coming to Hawaii?



"It would be the Arizona Memorial. A lot of people perished there, and it's important that everyone respect that."

Ben Gapelu  
DA civilian



"It has to be snorkeling at Hanauma Bay. It's a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for you to be that close to nature. The fish actually come up to you — you can feel them against you — and then to see underwater as you swim along the reef — it's great for all ages."

April Pedersen  
Family member



"I would say Volcano National Park on the Big Island, which my family and I just visited. It is so different. You just can't appreciate the power of the volcano and the landscape it creates, unless you see it."

Kelly Sutterfield  
Family member



"Surfing at North Shore, especially during the wintertime when you can kill yourself with the waves. If you don't know how to surf, I'd go to Waikiki first."

Spc. Michael Thomson  
125th MI Bn.



"I think everyone should see the waterfalls at Waimea Bay and on Oahu's windward side. They are special because of the rocks and the quiet, peaceful serenity they portray."

Spc. John Van Holten  
125th MI Bn.

The Hawaii Army Weekly is an authorized newspaper and is published in the interest of the U.S. Army community in Hawaii.

All editorial content of the Hawaii Army Weekly is the responsibility of the U.S. Army, Hawaii Public Affairs Office, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii 96857. Contents of the Hawaii Army Weekly are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government or the Department of the Army.

The Hawaii Army Weekly is printed by The Honolulu Advertiser, a private firm in no way connected with the U.S. Government,

### HAWAII ARMY WEEKLY

under exclusive written agreement with the U.S. Army, Hawaii.

The Hawaii Army Weekly is published weekly using the offset method of reproduction and has a printed circulation of 15,300.

Everything advertised in this publication shall be made available for purchase, use or patronage without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, marital sta-

tus, physical handicap, political affiliation, or any other non-merit factor of the purchaser, user or patron.

If a violation or rejection of this equal opportunity policy by an advertiser is confirmed, the printer will refuse to print advertising from that source until the violation is corrected.

The appearance of advertising in this publication, including inserts and supplements, does not constitute endorsement by the Department of the Army, or The Honolulu Advertiser, of the firms, products or services advertised.

Commander  
Col. Michael McBride  
Public Affairs Officer  
Capt. Kathleen Turner  
Command Information Officer  
Ed Aber-Song  
Managing Editor  
Aiko Brum  
Editor  
Sharee Moore  
Staff Writers  
Sgt. Sean Kimmons  
Joy Boisselle  
Layout  
Tony Vercelez

Editorial Office: 655-4816/8728

Fax: 655-9290

E-mail: e-mail the HAW direct at editor@hawaiiarmyweekly.com or ed.aber-song@schofield.army.mil

Address: Public Affairs Office  
Bldg. 580, Stop 215  
Schofield Barracks, HI 96857

Web site:  
http://www.25idl.army.mil/haw.asp  
Advertising: 521-9111



# Frequent maintenance enhances humvee safety

Story and Photos by  
Sgt. Sean Kimmons  
Staff Writer

Death, injuries and vehicle damage are things that might be prevented when Soldiers perform regular preventive maintenance checks and services on their High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicles.

If Soldiers do not properly service their Humvee and a serious malfunction occurs, the malfunction could cause the operator to get into an accident.

For that reason, 25th Infantry Division (Light) and U.S. Army, Hawaii, Soldiers head down to their respective motor pools to properly service their Humvees every Monday.

"If you are out there on the road and something happens, you don't want to get into any trouble ... you actually avoid things from happening if you do your PMCS correctly," said Spc. Victor Cavaleri, a laundry and bath specialist for the 25th Military Police Company.

Trouble could just be a minor accident or, even worse, an accident resulting in a death.

"I wouldn't want to be responsible for killing somebody else because I was too lazy to check my brake fluid," said Staff Sgt. Wilson Warren, the motor sergeant for Headquarters and Headquarters Co., 25th ID (L).

Warren and his team of mechanics do their best to prevent such accidents at the 25th ID (L) Consolidated Motor Pool here. But, he says it is



**Spc. Victor Cavaleri, a laundry and bath specialist for the 25th MP Co., fixes a turn signal on his Humvee during a PMCS check.**

mainly the operator's responsibility to make sure vehicles are in good working condition.

"I believe it's important for the operator to do [PMCS] because that's the person who will actually be driving the vehicle," Warren said. "We verify the faults that the operators bring to our attention; [however,] mechanics, or the operator, either repair the faults on-the-spot, schedule an appointment or order needed parts."

A 40-hour Humvee driving course is required in order for Soldiers to become a Humvee operator. As part of the course, Soldiers receive a PMCS certification class, in-depth classroom training, hands-on driver training and a road test on the final day.

All training is a culminating effort to put only the skilled and certified Humvee operators out on the roads.



**Sgt. Trent Strothkamp, a recovery NCO for HHC, 25th ID (L), checks a faulty alternator belt on a Humvee.**

## Army addresses vehicle safety

Army News Service

The U.S. Army is actively examining ways to improve safety for the High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle, or HMMWV. The HMMWV is the most predominately used vehicle, as well as the Army's most stable vehicle.

In the mid-1990s, the Army adopted an internationally accepted standard for measuring vehicle stability called the NATO lane change test. According to this definitive test, the HMMWV is the most stable vehicle in our tactical-wheeled vehicle fleet.

Testing has shown that installing "add on armor," or AoA, actually improves the vehicle's stability by lowering its center of gravity. The Army will continue to test, study and verify results and simulations, leaders said.

The root causes of accidents may not be entirely obvious. Therefore, the Army is addressing a number of safety initiatives to improve safety rates, including the following:

- Requiring the use of seat belts. Seatbelt safety remains a key factor. Deployed Soldiers will begin to use the new five-point seatbelt. Installing the five-point retractable restraint system in the vehicle allows for a quick egress from the vehicle in an accident sequence.
  - Improving communications techniques between the vehicle commander and drivers. A newly designed headset and microphone will be compatible with the Kevlar helmet.
  - Reviewing the configuration of the vehicle's interior to allow an occupant's safe and unobstructed egress from the vehicle.
  - Enhancing the individual driver's skill training through simulation, classroom and hands-on Advanced Drivers Skills Training.
- Complex and interdependent factors make it difficult to determine a single source material solution that will halt accidents, including those that result in the vehicle rolling over. Still, the Army will continue to study the functionality of the HMMWV and continue to develop and test solutions.

*(Editor's Note: For more information on vehicle safety, contact the Safety Office at 656-9930.)*

## Vehicle safety, awareness show improvement in Iraq convoys

By Sgt. Michael J. Carden  
Army News Service

CAMP VICTORY, Iraq — From October 2004 to January 2005, Coalition forces in Iraq suffered 48 troop fatalities due to military-vehicle related accidents, which is nearly half the number of troops that were lost during the entire 2004 fiscal year, according to Multi-National Corps - Iraq safety reports.

After analysis and investigation, the MNC-I has determined that more than half of the total accident

fatalities that have occurred in Iraq are vehicle-related. Of those, 66 percent were vehicle rollovers.

Since February, the MNC-I safety office has noticed a considerable decrease in rollover accidents and a decrease in total vehicle accidents and fatalities, said David Martin, safety manager. He attributes this fact to the safety stand-down program that requires newly deployed units to hold a safety stand-down day within 30 days of assuming authority for an area.

"The safety stand-down reinforces

the basics of vehicle safety and awareness by practicing rehearsals such as convoy briefs and rollover drills," Martin said. "[They] have opened Soldiers' eyes. They're paying more attention to detail now.

"Units are doing the right thing," Martin added. "They're making sure they go over rollover drills, safety and threat awareness. They're making sure that every Soldier in his or her vehicle knows what to do during any situation. They've even been practicing egress of the vehicle after a rollover, and it's shown."

"If the Soldiers rehearse the rollover drills, in the event of a rollover, they're much more likely to survive," Martin said. "Getting the gunner back inside the vehicle, bracing yourself during a rollover and wearing your seat belt may all be deciding factors in the severity of any injuries."

On roads with many potholes, Humvee drivers may have to maneuver around them. They must be cautious of their speed. They may also encounter narrow roads or be attacked, which could cause them to

lose control of their vehicle, said Marine Cpl. Chris Pearo.

Pearo is an up-armored Humvee driver for the Multi-National Corps - Iraq resource and sustainment operations security team.

"Safety is paramount," he said. "Before every convoy, we discuss safety procedures, making us more aware and prepared. It's not like driving your car. It's top-heavy."

Pearo emphasized his main concern while driving is the safety of his passengers; they are his motivation to be ever safety-conscious.

# Mission success depends on proper planning

Story and Photo by  
Sgt. Jennifer Emmons  
17th Public Affairs Detachment

**FIREBASE LAGMAN,**  
Afghanistan — When a Soldier is breaching an objective, he is focused on that one moment in time, but he may not realize how the mission he's currently performing came into existence.

Nonetheless, the planning for a mission is as important as its execution, said Maj. Todd Wilson, operations officer for the 2nd Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment.

"When you are planning a mission, you must have several things in mind," he said. "First, the mission must fit into the overarching plan of the infantry task force. [Here] that is to secure Zabul Province with the purpose of effective self-governance."

Within the parameters of the enduring mission, two main reasons exist for conducting missions, he added.

"We will do a mission if it will help the security situation in the region or if it will help with the infrastructure and development of the area," Wilson explained.

When anti-Coalition militant activity is in an area, leaders plan a mission to secure the area, he



**Spc. Orion Martin carries his rucksack and radio as he starts a mission in Gardek District. In many areas it's impossible to use vehicles, so a Soldier must carry everything with him. Mission planners must keep this fact in mind.**

said. Or, if there is a need for Coalition help for infrastructure development, that is where the Soldiers are sent.

"The enemy has a vote on any mission," said Capt. Dan Blackmon, 2nd Bn., 35th Inf. Rgt., fire support officer and mission planner. "We set the basics of the

plan and are able to shift targets, if necessary, depending on enemy activity."

Coalition forces work closely with local government officials in the 11 Zabul districts to help improve security.

"It's a large area to cover," said Wilson, adding that working close-

ly with district leaders makes it easier to prioritize missions and helps officials trust Coalition forces. "All operations are sanctioned by the Afghan leadership," he added. "He's in charge. We are just here to help him create a stable environment."

"We've always been in agreement with the officials. There is a mutual understanding, cooperation and participation with provincial government officials."

The changing face of the battlefield has kept mission planners here very busy.

"We are in the stabilization and support operations," said Wilson. "We aren't just planning operations for our battalion of infantrymen. We are planning in a very diverse atmosphere."

Planners must coordinate for all the different units involved in any one operation. Every operation has a contingent from the Afghan National Army, local police, local government officials and several Coalition units.

"We have to plan for the cross-cultural issues that arise such as language and religious observance," said Wilson.

Different Coalition forces working in the area must all be on the same sheet of music about the missions going on in the region.

The infantry task force is responsible for coordinating action and ensuring everyone is going in the same direction.

"The challenge is planning missions that involve everyone and help meet the individual goals each unit is responsible for," Wilson explained.

Soldiers working in the planning department have their share of challenges. Working in the multiunit, multination environment can pose problems. The environment can also provide needed motivation.

"It's a challenge to get everyone in line, going in the same direction," said Capt. Rob Wolfe, 2nd Bn., 35th Inf. Rgt., assistant operations officer for plans, "but working with the Afghans is so motivating. This is their fight, just as much as ours, and seeing them fight for their freedom is amazing."

With continuous intelligence gathering, the target of a mission may change at any moment, but a good plan can be used even if situations change, said Blackmon.

"The basics of the plan don't change much," Blackmon continued. "The success or failure of a plan is in the execution. It's the junior leaders on the ground that make the plan work."

## News Briefs

**WAVE Study** — Have you ever wondered, "What on earth am I here for?" Do you think you may have missed God's will for your life?

Join the WAVE for the "40 Days of Purpose Campaign" and learn God's five purposes for your life.

This study begins Sunday and runs through May 22.

The Wave meets each Sunday at 10 a.m. in the Fort Shafter dining facility, Building 503-B. Bring a friend along with you and start living a purpose-driven life.

For more information, call 438-1816.

**Heard Avenue Road Closure** — Heard Avenue, from Kolekole Avenue to Foote Avenue, Schofield Barracks, will be closed Monday through April 15 for resurfacing.

Obtain more information from Jeremy Castro at 842-3245; Brad Chikuma at 656-2914, ext. 3041; or Terry Lopez at 656-3036.

**Schofield Barracks Commissary** — The Schofield Barracks commissary will open at 8 a.m. and close at 3 p.m., Monday.

Store hours will be 8 a.m. – 8 p.m. on Tuesday.

**556th PSB** — Alpha Detachment, 556th Personnel Service Battalion, has relocated from Trailer 7 to Building 750 (the old Nehelani Club), which is on the corner of Ayres Avenue and Waianae Avenue, next to Hale Kula Elementary School.

The detachment will begin service to its customers at Building 750 on Monday.

Call the 556th PSB at

655-5331 or the staff duty at 655-8639 for more details.

**Army Museum** — The U.S. Army Museum at Fort Derussy, adjacent to the Hale Koa Hotel in Waikiki, will be closed on Tuesday for carpet installation; however, the gift shop will remain open.

For more details, call 438-2821.

**SAFAC** — The new Soldier and Family Assistance Center is a service that allows Soldiers and family members to access various agencies on Schofield Barracks and at Tripler Army Medical Center via one phone number: 655-6600.

Open 24/7, the service expedites entrance into a care network of experts who can address challenges and mental health issues such as substance abuse, spouse or child abuse and marital or family therapy.

A trained provider uses approved telephone triage guidelines to assist with appointments at agencies within a timeframe of 24 to 72 hours.

The SAFAC hotline is not a crisis intervention line. Life-threatening issues are best handled by your local or TAMC Emergency Room, or by calling 911.

The SAFAC is now open for calls. For more information, contact Capt. Anthony Thompson, SAFAC administrator, at 655-4803.

**Tuition Assistance** — The Installation Management Agency has received \$21.4 million to subsidize immediate tuition assistance shortfalls. Soldiers who paid for courses out of pocket, or those who did not register for a class due to lack of funding, should go to their Installation Education Center by April 15 to make

arrangements for tuition reimbursement or late enrollment.

Requests for special exception after April 15 will be forwarded to the Human Resources Command for consideration.

**Human Resources** — The Directorate of Human Resources (U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii) is now located in Building 750 (the former Nehelani) at 673 Ayres Ave. on Schofield Barracks. DHR provides family travel and emergency

leave assistance, ID Cards, DEERS, in/out processing, passport, transition services and more.

Contact Tamara Elston at 655-5064 for details.

**Tax Help** — Time is running out to complete your 2004 federal and state taxes. However, the Schofield Barracks Tax Center, Building 361 (in back of the museum), is open Monday – Wednesday from 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m., Thursday from 9:30 a.m. – 6 p.m. and Friday from 9:30 – 4 p.m. to help you com-

plete and file your taxes.

The Fort Shafter Tax Center, in the Aloha Center, Building 330, is open Monday – Wednesday from 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

All tax preparers are IRS-certified. Call the Schofield Tax Center at 655-5144 or Fort Shafter at 438-2829.

**Volunteer Recognition** — Local volunteers will be recognized at the 2005 Hawaii Army Volunteer Recognition Ceremony, April 20 at 11 a.m. at the Nehelani Ballroom on Schofield

Barracks. The commander of 25th Infantry Division (Light) and U.S. Army Hawaii, will honor volunteers.

Registration for those attending begins at 9:45 a.m. Volunteers can have their photo taken with the commander from 10:15 – 10:45 a.m. A reception will follow the ceremony.

All volunteers, friends and family, commanders, managers and supervisors are encouraged to attend this event. For more details, call Cathie Henderson, volunteer coordinator, at 655-2398.

# First lady visits troops in Afghanistan

By 2nd Lt. Christy Kercheval  
 Combined Joint Task Force-76  
 Public Affairs

**BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan** — First lady Laura Bush, in a secretly planned trip to Afghanistan, enjoyed dinner March 30 with nearly 200 service members stationed here.

Maj. Gen. Jason Kamiya, commanding general, Combined Joint Task Force-76, greeted Mrs. Bush as she arrived at Bagram.

"We are honored and grateful that Bush planned this trip. Her presence is a strong demonstration of America's commitment to Afghanistan and also shows the support America has for every Soldier, sailor, airman and Marine serving in the military."

The trip was Bush's first visit to Afghanistan. She arrived just before noon at Bagram. She then traveled from Bagram to Kabul on coalition helicopters and visited a Women's Teacher Training Institute at Kabul University, where women from across Afghanistan are equipped to be educators. (The Afghan women then return to their villages and teach girls who might not otherwise receive any formal education.)

Bush also took the opportunity to meet with Afghan President Hamid Karzai at his presidential palace.

Karzai was thankful for the opportunity to meet with the first lady, and while shaking hands said, "This matters much more than hundreds of millions of dollars ... much more."

Bush then traveled back to Bagram, where troops waited for her at the Dragon Dining Facility.

After selecting fried shrimp, broccoli and rice from the buffet line, Bush joined the troops for dinner.

As the meal concluded, the first lady stood and shared

greetings and thanks on behalf of everyone back in the United States. Her introduction brought all troops to their feet, with clapping and cheering.

"On behalf of my husband and all Americans, we want you and all the men and women who serve in our military to know we support you, we believe in you, and we're proud of you."

She reassured the service members that their families and loved ones back home were being cared for. She also referenced the achievements of the men and women serving in Afghanistan since the collapse of the Taliban.

"Thanks to you, the Taliban is gone. Thanks to you more than eight million men and women in Afghanistan voted in the free elections.

"Thanks to you, millions of little girls are going to school in this country — little girls who were denied the education just three years ago. ... These are big goals, and you've met every one of them with courage and honor," she said.

Bush told the troops of her visit to Kabul University, and how encouraged she was that so many women were training to be teachers and educators. She said the women were "relishing" their newfound freedom.

"Each act of independence helps the roots of democracy grow stronger, and your work made all this possible."

Bush concluded her remarks by again thanking service members for everything they were accomplishing in Afghanistan, and for every hardship and sacrifice they endure for the cause of freedom.

"I look forward to getting home and telling the president that America is safer because the men and women at Bagram Air Base are on duty."



Susan Sterner

First lady Laura Bush laughs with several Soldiers who belong to the 25th Infantry Division (Light), as they dine and "talk story" in the Dragon Dining Facility on Bagram Air Base in Kabul, Afghanistan, March 30.



Sgt. James-Denton Wylie

Laura Bush peers over the serving counter at the selection for dinner at the dining facility. The first lady decided on fried shrimp, broccoli and rice, and took her seat with more than 200 service members. She took the opportunity to tell troops how proud all Americans are of the mission they are carrying out in Afghanistan.



Sgt. James-Denton Wylie

First lady Laura Bush addresses troops gathered in the Dragon Dining Facility at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, after making a "surprise" visit to view the plight of women and the progress of education first-hand at Kabul University.

# MI Soldier advances career by going warrant

Story and Photo by  
Spc. LeeAnn Lloyd  
500th MI Brigade

When making the decision to pursue a leadership position within the Army, many questions come to mind.

Will I be a good leader? What is a good leader? How can I keep from letting my troops down?

What if we deploy? How can I best prepare my troops for where our Army is headed?

For Sgt. 1st Class Edward Korotasz, making the decision to join the warrant officer field after serving as a noncommissioned officer for 10 years was an easy one.

The 500th Military Intelligence Brigade's training and operations noncommissioned officer in charge is confident of his leadership abilities and knows his years of enlisted training have provided a solid foundation from which he can best serve as an officer in the MI Corps.

Korotasz began his military career in August 1992, when he enlisted to serve as a light-wheel vehicle mechanic. He soon realized he could advance more quickly by switching to the strategic side of the military and began his tenure as a military intelligence analyst.

His first assignment with MI led him to Korea, and then Fort Drum, N.Y., where he served as the 2nd Infantry Brigade intelligence officer. It was his tour at Fort Drum that offered Korotasz a look into what "the real Army" is all about.

"My time with the 10th Mountain Division helped me see what it's really like out there, in places where young Soldiers are taking bullets



**Sgt. 1st Class Edward Korotasz, 500th MI Brigade, displays perfect form while doing push-ups in the rain on Watts Field, Schofield Barracks. Korotasz recently decided to become a warrant officer in the MI Corps. He leaves for school in May.**

and making life and death decisions. In those types of units, you don't have coworkers, you have brothers," Korotasz said.

While in New York, Korotasz was put on rotation to Bosnia-Herzegovina during the millennium New Year.

"The most important lesson I learned [while in Bosnia] is that actions you take, no matter how small, effect the cogs on the largest scale imaginable. Sometimes the work you perform can cause a person's life to be saved," he said.

After serving at Drum, Korotasz was assigned to the 32nd Army Air and Missile Defense Command at Fort Bliss, Texas, and then Camp Zama, Japan, where his duty title changed from serving with the S-2, to serving as the S-3 training and operations noncommissioned officer in charge.

"The unit was scheduled to move to Hawaii and change its make-up a little. That means a big deal – huge visibility.

"I had no idea what an S-3 did. They gave me some training and three Soldiers, and said 'make it happen,' and here we are," Korotasz explained.

All of his experiences have helped shape the type of warrant officer Korotasz wants to be.

"A good leader is one that learns from his subordinates ... how to best utilize their strengths while showing them their weaknesses and advising them how to improve," Korotasz said.

Korotasz looks forward to offering his expertise and experience to the warrant officer field. He is confident in his abilities to serve as a leader ... but not too confident.

"That would definitely be a pitfall. I know there is much I have yet to learn," Korotasz said.

"Sergeant First Class Korotasz has shown that he can make the tough decisions under stressful times," said 1st Sgt Mathis of HHD, 500th MI Bde. "That's the kind of Soldiers we need in today's Warrant Officer Corps — someone that does his homework and gives the commander all the options to make a curtail decision in a timely manner, a decision that could very well enhance Soldiers' lives."

## MI battalion gets realistic training, preps for combat

Story and Photo by  
Spc. LeeAnn Lloyd  
500th MI Bde

Fiscal year 2005 proposes many possible changes for the 500th Military Intelligence Brigade, from its integration with the 115th Military Intelligence Brigade to possible deployment to theaters of action — a reality that can happen individually and as a unit.

With that in mind, the Soldiers of the 500th under-

stand they can expect to see adjustments to the military lifestyle they've become accustomed to. They can expect more time in the field coupled with more combat-related training.

"In all of our training we are trying to simulate what it's like to perform these tasks under pressure, as if you were in a stressful environment," said Capt. Shane Lee, Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment commander. "Having the

knowledge you need to perform these types of tasks correctly is paramount.

"Understanding how to call in a helicopter that doesn't belong to you, and knowing they won't respond unless you call in the information correctly is imperative when Soldiers' lives are on the line," he added.

Lee and 1st Sgt. Ken Mathis, HHD first sergeant, are working to ensure their Soldiers receive the highest quality of training possible, from land navigation to calling

in for medical evacuation requests to UH-60s at Wheeler Army Airfield, Hawaii.

Recently, Soldiers with the brigade suited up in full Mission Oriented Protective Posture gear and decontaminated their skin using actual kits instead of simply simulating the tasks — something many junior Soldiers haven't experienced since basic training.

"Even though there isn't an NBC [nuclear, biological and chemical] threat here in

Hawaii, our Soldiers may someday have to go to a place like Afghanistan or Iraq, where that type of threat is real," said Spc. Matthias Knox, HHD training NCO. "I'd rather have this type of training and never need it, rather than needing it and never having it."

"A solid knowledge of basic soldiering skills has never been a greater necessity. Not only do we need to go back to our roots when it comes to common tasks such as reacting

to direct incoming fire, three-second rushes and first aid skills, we also need to push our fundamental boundaries by pursuing the unfamiliar — urban warfare survival tactics," Mathis explained.

Understanding that these are difficult times for the U.S. military is not hard. However, one thing that remains constant is a Soldier's resolve to step forward when needed, the Soldiers emphasized.

The Warrior Ethos reminds **See "MI Brigade," page A-7**



**Pfc. Maria Flores, human resources specialist with the 500th Military Intelligence Brigade, decontaminates her skin during common tasks training at Bowen Park last month.**



Staff Sgt. Bradley Rhen

**Spc. Ontario Smith, a cannon crew member for Battery F, 7th Field Artillery Regiment, pulls the lanyard on an M198 155mm howitzer and sends a round downrange during a show of force exercise at Forward Operating Base Salerno, Afghanistan, earlier this year.**

## Fox Battery

From A-1

has allowed it to shape the battlefield by changing the enemies' thought process. Raymond said that, in part, is what sets the unit apart from other units.

Even though the battery is wrapping up its yearlong deployment and preparing to redeploy to Hawaii, it is still very active.

Notice of the award came 10 days after the battery fired more than 40 rounds downrange in response to a rocket attack on FOB Salerno.

Since this March 22 attack, the battery has also been firing at previous rocket points of origin to

keep any would-be rocket firers on their toes.

"We've been given a great opportunity to perform in combat. And we've sold artillery to maneuver commanders, so they want to use us before they put an aircraft in the air, or before they put a Soldier, Marine, sailor or airman on the ground," Raymond said.

For the Soldiers of the battery, Raymond said this award quantifies what it is to be a "big gun."

"They've put their hearts and souls into this battery," he said. "They fought with their comrades, they've integrated into so many different types of forces, that to be recognized like this as the best battery, I think it's a tremendous

tribute to the Soldiers that really define the battery."

Spc. Michael Matthys, 24, an assistant gunner with Fox Battery, said the award is that much sweeter knowing that the battery has played such a vital role in the war here, as well as in the lives of the Afghan people.

"We've done a lot of hard work out here, and it's good to see that we're getting recognition for that," he said. "This country, you come over here and it just opens your eyes. It's hard to believe people actually live like this.

"For them to live in fear and have an evil regime over them, trying to control them, that's just unacceptable."

# 411th Engineers receive honors for OIF II duties

By Sgt. Sean Kimmons  
Staff Writer

Eleven Soldiers with the 411th Engineer Combat Battalion (Heavy) received the Bronze Star Medal and hundreds more the Army Commendation Medal for their duties in Operation Iraqi Freedom II, during an awards ceremony April 1 at Schofield Barrack's Sgt. Smith Theater.

The 411th Eng. Bn., assigned to the 9th Regional Readiness Command, deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom II in March 2004. Most of the unit returned back to Hawaii last month.

While in Iraq, the 411th Soldiers were attached to the 1st Cavalry Division's Task Force Baghdad. As part of the task force, the 411th became the primary combat engineer construction battalion in central Baghdad.

"Our Soldiers worked at nearly every base camp throughout central Baghdad, the International Zone [formerly known as the Green Zone] and south of Baghdad in North Babil," said Lt. Col. Jonathan Wung, commander of the 411th.

The 411th Soldiers executed numerous construction operations, including emergency construction missions in the Baghdad area. They also supported the 1st Cavalry Division in notable Iraqi milestones such as the Transfer of Sovereignty on June 28 and Iraq's first free elections on Jan. 30.

Besides construction operations,



Sgt. Sean Kimmons

**Brig. Gen. John Ma, commander of the 9th RRC, awards Command Sgt. Maj. Raymond Irie, command sergeant major of the 411th Eng. Bn., the Bronze Star during a ceremony held at Sgt. Smith Theater, April 1.**

the 411th headed the Operation Caring Hands program. Soldiers collected, sorted and delivered more than 50,000 donated school supplies, clothing and toys to local Iraqi children, Wung explained.

In all, 411th Soldiers conducted more than 300 tactical convoys within Iraq's hostile capitol, and fortunately, every 411th Soldier was able to redeploy despite facing many insurgent attacks.

The 92nd Engineer Combat Battalion replaced the 411th in early March. The 411th Soldiers will return to their respective military bases in 29 states, as well as Guam, American Samoa and the Republic of Korea.

## MI Brigade

From A-6

Soldiers they must always place the mission first, and in order to do that successfully, the highest standards of training in not only technical skills but, most importantly, tactical ones must be obtained, the leaders said.

The 500th is taking the necessary steps to make that efficiency a reality, Lee emphasized.

"Getting ourselves out of a 'garrison' mindset and aiming for tactical-oriented proficiency will be one of our biggest challenges in 2005; however, the growing pains will seem miniscule, in the end, should our services be needed elsewhere," Lee added.

Each Soldier within the 500th understands just how real the possi-

bility of deployment might be, and each is taking the necessary steps to ensure readiness.

Throughout 2005, an estimated 26 Soldiers have been tasked to serve overseas on individual assignments.

"It's important to maintain a solid knowledge of basic soldiering skills because you never know when your number will be called, and it will be your turn to go," explained Pfc. John Pittinger, 500th MI Bde. primary mail clerk. "Performing tasks such as these more regularly leaves me with greater confidence in my abilities as a Soldier, as well as the abilities of the Soldiers serving next to me.

"I have no doubt these training scenarios will serve me well should I ever have to perform the tasks in an actual combat situation," Pittinger said.



**Soldiers race to unload an ambulatory patient from a UH-60 Blackhawk during a simulated medical evacuation request at Wheeler Army Airfield last month.**

# Status of 2004 HAFAP issues

## Resolved Issues

•**Security lighting in residential, commercial and common areas:** RCI continues to improve lighting within housing areas and facility managers are handling commercial lighting needs. Lighting throughout the installation will be continually evaluated.

•**Control of dogs:** 25th ID(L) & USARHAW Pamphlet 210-5 does not dictate dog leash length; however, the pamphlet clearly indicates that a sponsor is responsible for control of pets. Sponsors are held accountable for incidents.

•**Dog exercise park:** Dog exercise parks have been incorporated in the RCI project development plan as a community amenity.

•**Adequate, safe and clean playgrounds prior to RCI:** A preventive maintenance program was established to enable a proactive versus reactive maintenance plan.

•**Enforcement of clothing return policy:** A copy of AR 700-84 is posted at each checkout to ensure that all associates are trained on clothing return policies.

•**High service fees at the Post Alteration Shop:** Baseline sources were gathered and a price survey was conducted to ensure that fees are at least 20 percent below the average standard price for like garments.

•**State statute takes precedence over the medical privacy act at military treatment facilities:** Hawaii State Law permits 14-17 year olds to seek family planning services, birth control (excluding abortion), sexually-transmitted disease treatment, and pregnancy counseling without having to get parental consent. As such, the State has left to the treating physician to decide whether to release information regarding the aforementioned consults/treatments to parents or guardians.

Regarding other medical issues, minors, ages 14-17, are not author-

ized treatment without parental consent. Parents already receive disclosure regarding treatment that does not involve family planning, STD's, or pregnancy.

•**Child care for shift workers and reserve component Soldiers:** The number of family child care providers has increased, and providers are willing to make available care in the evenings and on weekends.

•**Exciting teen activities:** Middle school and Teen Center directors are working to create programs that are fun and to encourage more teens to participate. The Teen Center has reopened at the Kaala Recreation Center, and teen centers are now open at Aliamanu Military Reservation, Fort Shafter, Helemano Military Reservation and Schofield Barracks. Plus, day camps have been established for school breaks.

•**Eliminate time limit on use of Montgomery GI Bill:** Issue forwarded to USARPAC Conference, approved and forwarded to the DA AFAP Conference. Issue entered AFAP Conference as Issue #60.

DA AFAP delegates stated many reserve component Soldiers are called up for periods of at least 24 months and therefore can enroll in the active duty MGIB Program. The small percentage of Soldiers affected does not warrant prioritization as a top two issue. The group said the time limit was more than adequate for Selected Reserves to take advantage of the program.

•**Too low Hawaii Cost of Living Allowance, or COLA:** Issue forwarded to USARPAC Conference and subsequently returned to installation. Delegates advised that the new COLA site survey will be conducted within the next year. The new COLA methodology considers rental costs versus homeowners' costs.

The current COLA rate for the island of Hawaii is 16.5 percent, and the new COLA rate will be 15 percent. Decreases cannot exceed one

percent per year.

The next Pacific COLA area survey is in 2007.

•**Medical and dental coverage for National Guard and Reserve:** Issue forwarded to USARPAC Conference, approved and forwarded to DA AFAP Conference.

•**Personally Owned Vehicle, or POV, rental reimbursement:** Issue forwarded to USARPAC Conference, approved and subsequently forwarded to DA AFAP Conference.

## Pending Issues

•**Parking and expansion at Schofield Barracks Medical Center and Tripler Army Medical Center:** The long-term solution is to build a 1,308-stall parking structure. The short-term solution is to add 186 stalls by July 2005.

Schofield Barracks will add 272 stalls within the year.

•**Inadequate and underutilized lighting of tracks on Schofield Barracks:** At Stoneman Field, a work order has been completed to install a timer, but funding is at issue. Funding is an issue at Watts Field too.

•**Extended evening child care options through the Child Development Center:** A survey will be conducted of the community; however, the program cannot be subsidized but could be provided at a cost to users.

•**Courtesy shuttles at Tripler Army Medical Center:** A parking study was completed and funding is being evaluated.

•**Unfair school bus fares:** Each school is responsible for determining methods of payment. A bus pass study is being conducted at one school, and findings will be shared with other schools to determine feasibility.

*(Editor's Note: This information was compiled by Joy Boisselle, staff writer. More information about the 2001-2004 HAFAP issues is available online at [www.murarmy-hawaii.com](http://www.murarmy-hawaii.com).)*



**Terry Dixon, lead kennel caretaker, takes a guest for the first of her two daily walks at the MWR Pet Kennel. The facility is a success story due to an issue raised at the 2003 HAFAP conference.**

## HAFAP

From A-1

are forwarded to the U.S. Army Pacific Command AFAP Conference (to be held in June). Following the same process, delegates decide which USARPAC issues require DA attention.

Plenty of success stories are attributed to the HAFAP and AFAP processes. Locally, for example, the Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Kennel and the Tropics Family Entertainment Center are new facilities, which resulted from issues raised at past HAFAP conferences. In addition, teen and youth programs have expanded.

Ongoing active issues include new and expanded parking at Tripler Army Medical Center and the Schofield Barracks Health Clinic.

At DA-level, issue resolution has led to the development of family readiness groups, an increase in Servicemen's Group Life Insurance, commonly called SGLI, and earned income tax credit for Soldiers stationed overseas. In total, 95 legislation changes, 137 policy changes and 153 improved programs and services have been credited to the AFAP process.

As for the importance of HAFAP, Sherrod said, "This is our lifeline to change. If we didn't have the process, many quality of life issues would have gone unheard by Army leadership."

She added that community participation is key to the program's success, and she is still seeking spouse delegates for the April 18 - 19 conference.

"Change won't happen without community involvement and this [HAFAP] is one way in which you can be involved in making our community better, and possibly the Army as a whole," Sherrod emphasized.

*(Editor's Note: For more HAFAP information or to volunteer, contact Robin Sherrod at 655-2744.)*

# New sexual assault policy gives victims more protection, control

By Terri Lukach

American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — The new guidelines for reporting incidents of sexual assault within the military create, for the first time, a department-wide standard that will both provide victims with the support they need after an incident occurs, and help commanders get to the root cause of the problem, the head of the Pentagon joint task force for sexual assault prevention and response said here March 22.

In an interview with the American Forces Press Service and the Pentagon Channel, Air Force Brig. Gen. K.C. McClain expanded on the new policy.

Before, McClain said, there were "pockets of excellence" but no overarching policy for contending with sexual abuse. The new poli-

cy "provides a framework for how the department will respond," she said of the new guidelines expected to take effect in mid-June.

"Sexual abuse crimes create a sense of powerlessness in the victim, a loss of control," McClain said, "and the official investigative process can be overwhelming."

It is primarily this sense of being overwhelmed and powerless that causes victims to forgo reporting an incident of sexual abuse, the general added.

The new policy allows the victim to report the incident and receive medical treatment, care and counseling while at the same time giving the victim more time and control over the release and management of personal information. In short, it allows the victim "to come forward without initiating the reporting process," she said.

McClain said the new policy will not limit commanders from addressing problems of abuse within their commands.

"Quite the contrary," she said. "Now commanders will have more information about the scope and nature of the problem within their organizations. It will allow them to adjust their prevention efforts and judge the effectiveness of their training program."

It also creates a universal policy, across all services, McClain said, which is particularly important in this new era of joint operations.

"It is critical that the same policy be applied across the Department of Defense," she said. "Otherwise, we could have different forms of confidentiality, or even different access to services, varying by location. That would not only be confusing," she said, "but also inequitable."

The message of the new policy, McClain

said, is that while complete reporting and accountability is preferable, the first priority is to ensure that victims are protected, that they are treated with dignity and respect, and that they receive the medical treatment, care and support they deserve.

Confidentiality does two things, McClain said: It gets victims the care and support they need, and it gives commanders information they don't currently have that allows them to get at the root cause of sexual abuse.

"Everyone in the Department of Defense has a role in prevention and response — regardless of rank, position, duty title or assignment," the general said. "That role, she added, is "to understand what behavior constitutes sexual assault, and to send a message to co-workers and friends that those behaviors are unacceptable and will not be tolerated."

## AER myths

From A-2

AER funds cannot be used for divorces or marriages, purchase of an automobile, ordinary leaves and vacations, overdrawn funds, outstanding debt, court fees, or a variety of other non-emergency circumstances.

**Myth 3 - Using AER will reflect adversely on my career.**

No, I have never seen a Soldier's career adversely affected by using AER. This situation should not happen.

**Myth 4 - Everyone will know I have used AER.**

No, however, the chain of command must be involved to help facilitate the Soldier's request. When a Soldier comes to AER, his or her case is confidential. What is discussed with counselors does not leave the AER office.

**Myth 5 - AER is too hard to get.**

Requesting AER assistance has never been simpler. Most appointments last an hour, and if the request is under \$2,000, the check can be issued from the office that day.

Requests over \$2,000 require higher-level approval and can take anywhere from one to five days.

In the Schofield Barracks AER office last year, only 24 requests out of 600 were denied. And those denied, according to McAnany, failed to provide supporting documentation or were not true emergencies.

In addition, Soldiers can learn about the AER process, including how to fill out necessary paperwork and budgeting, at AER workshops. Workshops are held every second and fourth Wednesday of each month.

**Myth 6 - AER just adds more debt to my situation.**

No, every Soldier leaves the AER office with a written budget and a repayment plan tailored to his or her unique

situation. Assistance is either an interest-free loan or grant that does not require repayment, and loan repayment is normally over a 12-month period, but can be as short as three months.

Generally, 85 percent of assistance at the Schofield Barracks AER is loans, 15 percent grants.

**Myth 7 - AER fund approval is based on rank.**

No, anyone from private to general can request AER funds under emergency conditions. The AER office recently approved a request from a sergeant major with more than 20 years of service.

AER assistance is not a function of rank; it is a process where a Soldier with a valid, unforeseen need can get needed financial help.

**Myth 8 - If I do not contribute to the AER fund, I cannot use it.**

Definitely not true. Whether or not a Soldier contributes to fund campaigns makes no difference when requesting AER assistance.

**Myth 9 - If I do not contribute to AER, I am automatically eligible for assistance when I need it.**

No, some think that by contributing they are joining the AER organization, and funds will then be available to them as needed. This is not true. Each case is evaluated using guidelines and regulations that govern approval and disapproval.

However, by contributing, all are helping to support a private, nonprofit, nongovernment organization whose sole purpose is to help Soldiers with emergency financial needs.

**Myth 10 - There is a limit to how much I can ask for.**



New vehicles are a common sight on Schofield Barracks as Soldiers return from yearlong deployments. While AER assistance is available for a variety of emergencies, costs associated with the purchase of a new automobile do not qualify.

No, you can ask for as much as you need. Just remember that approval levels change for amounts over \$2,000, and higher amounts may take longer to process.

**Myth 11- AER is the same at every installation.**

While the basic program is the same, AER in Hawaii can do some things differently as it is considered an overseas assignment. This reason is particularly true when travel needs are evaluated.

"Every request for assistance is evaluated on a case-by-case basis," McAnany said. "Even if you don't meet the established criteria, you may still request assistance as an exception to policy."

*(Editor's Note: For AER information, call 655-2400 or visit the Army Community Service office in Building 2091.)*

## Nutrition connection reveals the untruth about popular myths

Compiled from Hooah4Health

**Fiction:** You should take vitamin and mineral supplements for extra energy and strength during heavy physical activity like athletic competition and military training.

**Fact:** Vitamins and minerals do not give you energy or strength. Energy means calories, not get-up-and-go, and vitamins and minerals themselves have no calories.

Carbohydrates, fats and proteins provide energy. Vitamins and minerals help your body get the energy it needs from carbohydrates, proteins and fats. Weight training or resistance training builds strength.

**Fiction:** Drinking cold liquids during exercise causes cramps.

**Fact:** Not at all. The cause of cramps is thought to be related to dehydration — a lack of fluid rather than too much.

Cold drinks (40 to 50 degrees Fahrenheit or refrigerator temperature) are the optimal beverages during physical activity because they leave the stomach more quickly than warm liquids.

**Fiction:** You can condition your body to go without water by not drinking during physical activity.

**Fact:** Your body does not adapt to lack of water. It does the opposite; it heats up and slows down, just like a vehicle with an overheated engine.

Not drinking during physical activity is dangerous. If you go without water during activity you become dehydrated. Dehydration can cause fatigue, dizziness, headaches, weakness, and inability to walk.

Severe dehydration can lead to heat stroke, kidney failure, and even death.

**Fiction:** You need to drink only when you are thirsty.

**Fact:** Thirst does not tell you when you need water. By the time you feel thirsty you are already dehydrated. You should drink before, during, and after physical activity to keep your body well supplied with water.

In extreme weather conditions such as heat, cold or altitude, you need more water more often than you do in a temperate climate.

Water is your most important performance nutrient. When your body gets low on water your endurance, stamina, speed and concentration are weakened.

**Fiction:** Sports beverages and performance drinks are always better than water for performance.

**Fact:** Water is always appropriate for fluid replacement. For exercise sessions lasting less than 60 minutes, sports drinks offer no advantage over water except in taste.

However, for hard exercise lasting

over an hour, sports drinks do have a performance advantage because they provide carbohydrates to fuel working muscles and your brain.

**Fiction:** It's important to take protein supplements if you want to increase the size and strength of your muscles.

**Fact:** Protein supplements do not increase the size or strength of muscles and the amino acids in these supplements are not superior to the amino acids found in food.

What does increase muscle size is training, extra calories from carbohydrates and some additional protein. You can easily get that extra protein from food. Tuna fish, chicken, low-fat milk, low-fat cheese and instant breakfast powders are excellent sources of protein.

For example, to gain 1 lb. of muscle in a week, each day you need an additional 400 calories plus 14 grams of protein, which is the amount in 2 ounces of meat or two glasses of milk.

Since most Americans already eat far more protein than they need, these 14 grams of protein are already in your diet.

If you take in too much protein, your body can't use it. Excess protein is stored as fat.

**Fiction:** Carbohydrate loading can improve performance for all physical activity.

**Fact:** Carbohydrate loading — eating many more carbohydrates than normal, while tapering your physical training several days before an endurance activity — is not recommended for events lasting less than 60 continuous minutes because it does not work.

Your liver and muscles are able to store enough glycogen to last 60 minutes or more of physical activity. Therefore, carbohydrate loading for exercise lasting less than 60 minutes would not be helpful.

Eating a consistent diet that is 55-65 percent carbohydrate will allow you to replace muscle glycogen stores on a daily basis and will give you the energy to perform well in almost all military activities.

**Fiction:** Salt tablets are needed to replace sodium lost in sweat while exercising.

**Fact:** While a little salt is lost in sweat during physical activity, this loss rarely needs to be replaced during exercise and can be adequately replaced by regular meals. Only when you are sweating profusely for several hours and not eating should you be concerned about replacing salt.

In these situations, drink a commercial sports drink or a dilute salt solution.

Salt tablets are too potent and dangerous. They increase your water requirement and soak up body water that should be going to your muscles.

## DoD announces new health care benefit for Guard and Reserve

By Terri Lukach  
*American Forces Press Service*

WASHINGTON — A new health care plan, with coverage comparable to that enjoyed by federal employees under the Blue Cross and Blue Shield health insurance plan, will be available to eligible members of the National Guard and Reserve and their families April 25, Defense Department officials announced at the Pentagon March 24.

The new plan, called TriCare Reserve Select, will serve as a bridge for Reserve component members entering or leaving active duty who are not covered by civilian employer or other health insurance plans. The plan applies to all Reserve component personnel who have been activated since Sept. 11, 2001, and who agree to continued service in the Selected Reserve. The coverage will be applied retroactively, officials said.

Principal Deputy Undersecretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness Charles Abell, Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs Thomas Hall, and Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs Dr. William Winkenwerder announced the plan at a Pentagon news conference.

"We are committed," Abell said, "to providing the proper combination of compensation and benefits that will allow us to attract and retain the world's best fighting force."

Abell said that while large numbers of

National Guard and Reserve members have health insurance through their employers, the department "recognizes the importance of maintaining a continuity of care as they transition from their employers to serve with us and then back, as well as the need for some of them who may be self-employed or who work for small businesses to have health coverage."

TRS is a nationwide, premium-based plan that closely resembles the TriCare Standard coverage of the active duty force. Its rates are based on the premiums for the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Standard Service Benefit Plan for federal government employees. Premiums will be adjusted annually.

Reserve component personnel and their family members now are also eligible for benefits 90 days before activation, and for up to six months after demobilization, Hall said.

"For every 90 days of active duty service, Guard and Reserve personnel are eligible for one year of TriCare coverage for a modest fee," Hall told reporters. "That means, for example, that personnel who have served two years of active duty are eligible for eight years of health care coverage."

"[T]his change will shortly offer a more comprehensive benefit for transition back to private life," Winkenwerder said, "and, importantly, the opportunity for those who have served in contingency operations, the option for obtaining TriCare coverage on a longer term at very attractive rates."

## Commissary Awareness Month focuses on healthy choices for military members

Defense Commissary Agency

May is Commissary Awareness Month, and this year's theme emphasizes nutrition and health.

"It's Your Choice, Make It Healthy" emphasizes the commissary as the place to shop for a wide selection of produce and nutritious foods, as well as being the "healthy choice" for finances with savings of 30 percent or more.

The month of May will also see the return of the popular "worldwide" case lot sale events — with commissaries in the United States, Europe and the Far East holding case lot sales sometime during the month of May.

A special Web page on [www.commissaries.com](http://www.commissaries.com)

will be posted mid-April, giving shoppers a chance to find out when their favorite commissary is holding its sale. Also in May, programs such as Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers, the Single Marine Program, the Navy Liberty Program and First Term Airmen centers are encouraged to introduce single service members and those new to the military to their commissary benefit through fun and informative commissary tours.

Since May is also Physical Fitness Month, customers might want to think about getting a little extra exercise by walking all the aisles of the store and doing a few "milk curls" during their shopping experience.



Sharee Moore  
Formerly only available overseas, the Lotus Elise oozes zoom with its lightweight and small size at \$47,695.



Sgt. 1st Class Henry Moore Jr.  
Big Dog Motorcycles features air brushed rides in an assortment of designs.

## 2005 models rev it up

at auto show



Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Henry Moore Jr.

A lot of manufacturers are modeling cars after Mercedes-Benz. Which is the real Mercedes? Turn the page upside down for the answers.

By Sharee Moore  
Editor

HONOLULU — Car enthusiasts marched down the highway carpet to “Ooh!” and “Aah!” at more than 250 cars on display at the First Hawaiian International Auto Show March 31 through Sunday.

Visitors caught sneak peeks of 2006 models like the sleek and modern concept car, the Ford Shelby GR-1; the Infiniti M; and the first luxury hybrid sport utility vehicle, the Lexus RX 400h.

The Hawaii Convention Center sat bedecked with street signs and hanging traffic lights while more than 35 manufacturers presented the latest in cars, trucks, exotics, racecars and motorcycles — minus the pressure to buy.

On day four of the techno-fest, kids saw the McDonaldland character Hamburglar who presented the first 500 children with a free toy. As well, the first 200 kids entering the car show received a free picture with Nickelodeon’s SpongeBob Square Pants.

The adult crowd had its fair share of excitement, too, as a million-dollar treat awaited their perusal across the room.

Although unable to sit in or touch the flashy exotic car display, visitors could imagine the engines roaring on such models as the Lotus Elise, the Maserati Spyder, the Ferrari 360 Coupe and the Lamborghini Murcielago.

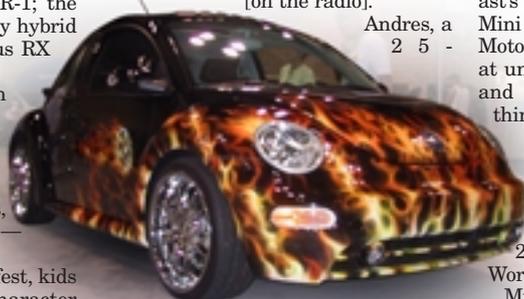
Billed as the “F-16 Fighter Jet without wings,” the Murcielago arched its trademark gull-wing doors and primped under the flash of spectator

camera phones. The ability to accelerate 0 to 62 mph in 3.5 seconds almost justifies its \$285,000 price tag and three-year waiting list, some said.

Exotic car specialist Roy Andres described the Ferrari experience.

“You won’t want to drive anything else,” he said while gazing into the distance. “The sound [of the engine] is stunning — whispering in your ears — you can’t even hear any kind of tune [on the radio].”

Andres, a 25-



Capt. Kevin McQueary

2005 Volkswagon New Beetle. \$17-22,000; paint job is extra.

year veteran car salesman, shared a little-known fact about Ferrari. In the world of the richer-than-rich, an individual has to have owned at least 14 Ferraris before a dealership will even consider selling him or her the elite Enzo — price \$800,000. After one year, the price goes up to \$1.4 million.

Needless to say, Andres said, only one person in Hawaii owns an Enzo.

For those on a less-extravagant budget, several cars flaunted the look of luxury, but more easily fit into a military budget. For those who were turned off by the \$106,000 bounty on

the Hummer H1, the 2006 Hummer H3 sells for as low as \$32,000.

The luxurious and full-featured Kia Amanti might cause pedestrians to do a double take because it resembles the Mercedes-Benz, with its trademark grill. The Kia Amanti’s safety features, faux wood trim and six-disc CD player rival other luxury cars, and at \$25,500, the Amanti is half the price.

If cheap, but cute was the enthusiast’s thing, the Mini Cooper S and Mini Convertible could fit the bill. Motor Trend magazine says the Mini, at under \$20K, has “go-kart handling and more room inside than you’d think.”

Experts further explained that for a little more “Oomph!” enthusiasts could bump the Mini Cooper S and Mini Convertible’s 115-horse motor to 200 horses with a John Cooper Works kit.

Minis aren’t the only cars that look and drive better after adding a kit. The Scion tC starts at \$16,000, and sports youth-oriented accessories like a power moonroof, reclining rear seats and a TRD supercharger raise output to 200 horses.

Scions go as low as \$12,995.

Aftermarket Alley featured show-quality cars equipped with special body kits, wheels, unique paint and a good deal of creativity. The display demonstrated how enthusiasts could take even a base model car and dramatically alter its appearance.

These days, aftermarket enhancements are now a billion dollar business because car enthusiasts can get flash for less cash.

(Editor’s Note: Visit the official auto show Web site at [www.hawaii-autoshow.com](http://www.hawaii-autoshow.com) for more information.)



Sgt. 1st Class Henry Moore Jr.

Wittaker Lopes, 11 months, “test drives” a Kawasaki Jet Ski at the 2005 Auto Show, Saturday.



Sharee Moore

The 2004 Ferrari 360 Coupe goes for \$199,000 at a nine-month waiting list. Viewing is by appointment only.

price tag tops out at \$32K.

Dog’s request, the 300C comes with a helmet. Its

Chrisler 300C. Thanks to hip hop artist Snoop only.

Editor’s Note: You guessed right; this model is the one and only. C: The Kia Amanti exudes luxury, but at \$25,000, it’s almost a steal.

# Month of April

## 8 / Today

**Salute the Troops Concert Series** — Enjoy live, local entertainment at the Tropics on Schofield Barracks every Friday night in April at 8:30 p.m. — with no cover charge. Listen to “Primal Tribe” today, “808” on April 15 and “Underle” on April 22.

Patrons can enjoy free entertainment, drink specials and food from MacGregor’s Market. Also, guests can visit the Tropics and register to win a sport utility vehicle sponsored by JN Chevrolet.

Finalists are selected at each concert event, and at the end of the series (approximately June, date to be announced), finalists will select a random key that may start an SUV.

If your key starts the vehicle, you drive away in a new SUV. Visit the Tropics or call 655-0002 for information.

**Vehicle Safety Inspections** — Vehicle inspections are \$2 off the normal price at the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Auto Craft Center through the April 15.

Non-tinted windows are \$10 and tinted windows, \$15. Call Fort Shafter at 438-9402, or Schofield Barracks at 655-9368, for more details.

## 11 / Monday

**Steak Fry at Reggies** — Dine on sizzling steak, cooked to perfection on the grill outside the Nehelani. This feast includes tossed salad, a baked potato, rolls and vegetables, and will be served from 5 – 8 p.m.

Cost is \$11.95. Call 655-0660 for more information.

## 12 / Tuesday

**Story Time** — Enjoy a special story time with Nyla Ching-Fujii at the Fort Shafter library at 3 p.m. Call 438-9521 for more information. and at the Aliamanu Gym on April 13, 3 p.m. Call 438-9521.

## 13 / Wednesday

**Stained Glass Class** — Catch the new four-session stained glass class at the Schofield Arts and Crafts Center. Cost is \$40 plus supplies.

Call 655-4202 to register and for more information.

**Story Time** — Enjoy more story time with Nyla Ching-Fujii at the Aliamanu Gym at 3 p.m. Call 438-9521 for more details.

## 14 / Thursday

**Spouses Night Out** — Catch Part Two of “The Seven Habits of Highly Effective Families” with Dr. Stephen Covey at the Schofield Barracks Army Community Service from 4:30 – 6:30 p.m. The meeting will break at 6 p.m. for a free pizza dinner.

Books will be provided for attendees; call 655-2736 to sign up.

Also, MWR Blue Star Card holders will receive free child care from 6 - 9 p.m., by reservation only, at Peterson Child Care Center. Call 655-3929 by noon of the Tuesday before each Thursday event to make reservations.

Reservations can also be made two weeks in advance at 655-2400.

## 15 / Friday

**Library Closure** — The Schofield Barracks, Fort Shafter, Aliamanu and Tripler community libraries will be closed for staff training. Regular library hours will resume on April 16.

Call your nearest library for hours of operation.

## Build Your Burger Day

— Select from a variety of condiments to create a burger to your liking for lunch and dinner from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. and from 5 – 8 p.m. at Reggie’s.

Cost is \$6.75. Call 655-0660 for more information.

## 16 / Saturday

**Parent’s Night Out** — Drop off the kids at the Child and Youth Services, then enjoy an evening out from 6 – 11 p.m. If your child is not registered with CYC, a \$15 registration fee is applicable.

Reservations are on a first-come, first-served basis. Call the Registration and Referral Office for pricing or information. At Schofield Barracks, call 655-5314. at Aliamanu Military Reservation, 833-5393.

## 19 / Tuesday

**HAFAP Planning** — The Hawaii Army Family Action Plan is designed to improve

the quality of life in the U.S. Army, Hawaii, community by receiving input from its community members. You can make a difference by submitting issues or comments online at [www.mwrarmy-hawaii.com](http://www.mwrarmy-hawaii.com), by e-mail to [HAFAP@schofield.army.mil](mailto:HAFAP@schofield.army.mil), or by calling 655-2744.

Issues will be discussed in a forum April 18 – 19. Community members are invited to attend the closing ceremony and to hear the final report out of issues at 2 p.m., April 19 at the Nehelani, Schofield Barracks. Call 655-2744 for more HAFAP information.

## 20 / Wednesday

**Wine and Dine at Nehelani** — Experience a tantalizing evening of wine and a gourmet four-course dinner, which includes soup and salad, an appetizer, entrée and dessert. Each course will be served with a selected wine.

Dinner starts at 6 p.m., and reservations will be accepted until April 18.

Cost is \$29 for adults. Call 655-0660 to make your reservation.

## 26 / Tuesday

**PT in the Park** — Join the fun at the Fort Shafter Gym from 6:30 – 7:30 a.m. Participating children will receive custom Army PT shirts and enjoy a free continental breakfast.

This event features an exciting and high energy Disney Mousersize aerobic routine led by mouse instructors and is a truly fun event for the whole family.

Call 438-9336 for more details.

## Ongoing

**Military Youth 4-H Club** — The Army’s CYC has incorporated 4-H clubs into its after-school program for the past four years. These clubs provide quality educational experiences using research-based curricula in photography, computer technology, arts and citizenship for military youth ages 5 – 19.

If you would like to participate in a military 4-H club, call 956-7196.

## Sunday Brunch at Reggies

— Taste a brunch buffet featuring French toast, eggs and waffles, along with other hot lunch entrees, every

Sunday from 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. Cost is \$12.95. Call 655-0660 for more details.

## Blue Star Card Program

— The Blue Star Card Program for spouses of Deployed Soldiers will end as Soldiers redeploy. Operation Iraqi Freedom cards, those with a blue background, are no longer being accepted. Operation Enduring Freedom cards, yellow background, are valid until April 30. The program will continue for units returning after this date. Program end date will be publicized. Green background cards issued for the 29th Brigade Combat Team and the 100th and 442nd Infantry Regiments are valid through 2006. Visit your Installation Access Pass Office to receive your Blue Star card. Call 438-

0572 or 655-1620.

## Tropics April Food Specials

— Patrons can purchase any breakfast burrito, biscuit sandwich or breakfast croissant and add hash rounds for only 50 cents. Also, guests can receive cinnobabies for \$1 with the purchase of any other item. Call 655-0002 for details.

## Bite Me Combo

— Purchase a combo meal at the Fort Shafter Strike Zone Snack Bar and receive a peel card that could net you prizes. Call 438-6733 for more information.

## Automotive Resale Lot

— Place your vehicle in the resale lot on Schofield Barracks for \$7 a week. The only requirements are that you must have a government ID card, state regis-

tration, a license plate sticker, a state safety inspection and sticker, proof of Hawaii “No Fault” insurance, a base decal number and a power of attorney, if you are not the registered owner of vehicle available for sale.

Call 655-9368 or visit the MWR Automotive Center on Schofield Barracks for more information.

## Volunteer Jobs Available

— Volunteer jobs are available at Army Community Service, where volunteers gain job experience and up to 20 hours of free child care at an hourly site.

Support your Army family community, meet new people, enjoy flexible hours and receive awards, recognition and fun. Call 655-2398 to see how you can be involved.



## SGT. SMITH THEATER

### Today Hitch

7 p.m. (PG-13)

### Saturday April 9 Hitch

7 p.m. (PG-13)

### Sunday April 10 Constantine

7 p.m. (R)

### Monday April 11 Closed

### Tuesday April 12 Closed

### Wednesday April 13 Closed

### Thursday April 14 Because of Winn-Dixie

7 p.m. (PG)

HACN TV2 Schedule		April 8 - 14	
<b>Morning</b>		<b>Evening</b>	
:00	Sign On	6:00	Community Focus
:26	NSPS What to Expect in Hawaii	6:12	Welcome Home Redeployment Montage
7:38	Dash & Grab	6:47	Arm Values Respect
7:51	What's Down the Drain	6:24	Safety Video
8:00	Army News Watch	6:30	NSPS What to Expect in Hawaii
8:30	Pentagon Channel	7:44	What's Down the Drain
9:00	Pentagon Channel	7:52	Welcome Home Maj. Gen. Olson
10:00	Welcome Home Maj. Gen. Olson	7:56	Safety Video
10:05	Safety Video	8:00	NFL: 100 Greatest TDs
10:08	Bulletin Board	9:04	Antiterrorism FP
11:00	Welcome Home Redeployment Montage 2	9:21	Safety Video
11:06	Dash & Grab	9:25	Dash & Grab
11:16	Hawaii Hidden Beauty, Hidden Danger	9:34	Welcome Home Redeployment Montage 2
11:35	What's Down the Drain	9:40	Bulletin Board
11:45	Welcome Home Redeployment Montage	10:25	NSPS What to Expect in Hawaii
11:50	Safety Video	11:38	What's Down the Drain
12:00	Pentagon Channel	11:45	Youth Protection
<b>Afternoon</b>		<b>Overnight</b>	
2:00	NSPS What to Expect in Hawaii		Pentagon Channel
3:13	Bulletin Board		
4:00	Pentagon Channel		

# Star-struck Soldiers



Courtesy photos / graphic illustration by Tony Vercelez

Many are still talking about when fans went wild — figuratively speaking, that is — when actor Denzel Washington visited Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, Texas. Although Web sites and e-mail traffic are circulating the visit anew, it actually took place in December 2004. Soldiers who have been evacuated from Germany come to be hospitalized in the facility, and Oscar-winning Washington brought joy and smiles to their faces, as well as BAMC medical personnel and administrative staff. Washington then toured the local Fisher House and signed many autographs. Fisher Houses are comfort homes built on the grounds of major military and V.A. medical centers that allow family members to be close to a loved one during hospitalization for an unexpected illness, disease or injury.

# Family Night satisfies appetites

Story and Photo by  
Capt. Kevin A. McQueary  
65th Engineer Battalion

Italian was the theme at the inaugural "Family Night" dinner held in the newly opened dining facility, or DFAC, of the 65th Engineer Battalion, March 30. Designed to bolster patronage by promoting awareness, both families and friends attended the feast.

The DFAC had been closed during deployment, but reopened in early March to the delight of the Sappers assigned to the 65th Eng. Bn. Their building is located — though virtually isolated — on the far west side of Schofield Barracks, near the base of Kolekole Pass.

"I was so happy when it reopened," said Spc. Trishanna Mangaroo, a 65th Eng. Bn. barracks resident. "Before, it was hard to get a good meal for breakfast or lunch because the other DFACs were so far away. We just didn't have the time."

Since the reopening, "head-counts" had been low. Increased patronage was needed to keep doors open.

"It may seem to some that we opened the DFAC a little early," Headquarters Company Commander Capt. Brennan Cook said concerning the low numbers. "But it's too important for our redeploying



**Capt. Brennan Cook and his son Hayden are all smiles after a hearty meal at the 65th Engineer Battalion's DFAC Family Night.**

Sappers to have three squares available to them as they move back into the barracks. The numbers don't matter right now."

DFAC manager Staff Sgt. Stacey Scott reinvented an old idea to develop more awareness and interest in the facility.

"A lot of people didn't know we're back in business," she explained. "Family Night is one way we can get the word out."

Previously, DFAC head-count had peaked at 46. At Family Night, that number jumped to 106.

"It'd be 150 if we could count all the babies!" Scott said, commenting on how nice it was to see many of the newest Sapper family members for the first time since deployment.

Administrative assistant and cook Spc. Joy Haulcy said, "We plan to do this once a month, and the menus will get better as attendance goes up."

Spaghetti, lasagna, chicken parmesan and, of course, pizza highlighted the Italian-themed menu. In April, Family Night will go Mexican, serving beef tacos, beef and chicken enchi-

ladas, beef and chicken fajitas, tamales, burritos and appropriate sides.

1st Sgt. Carlos Corbin's family was one of many who said they wholeheartedly enjoyed their meals.

"It's almost as good as Mom makes!" said Corbin's daughter Marietta, sharing her political comments on the lasagna. Marietta made short work of her meal, enjoying everything on her plate.

Corbin explained that his daughters said their favorite selections were cookies and ice cream because they don't normally indulge with desserts.

"The Helemano Plantation food service workers from ORI Corporation did an exceptional job making the facility ready for the extra guests, and our cooks did an outstanding job preparing and serving the meal," said Scott. "Their work will keep people coming back and help spread the word."

Family Nights at the 65th Eng. Bn. DFAC, Building 1492, are scheduled the last Thursday of each month. Doors open at 5 p.m. and close at 6 p.m. The meal is priced at \$3 for family members of E-4 and below, \$3.50 for all others.

Scott encourages patrons to use the suggestion box to ensure continued and improved service.



**Lt. Col. Jeffrey Eckstein, 84th Engineer Battalion commander, presents Heather Dooley with an Operation Iraqi Freedom 2 Battalion Certificate of Appreciation for her work with the family readiness group while the battalion was deployed.**

## Engineer families rally for surf, sun at Beach Bash

By Capt. Randy Leach  
84th Engineer Battalion

BELLOWS AIR FORCE STATION — The 84th Engineer Battalion descended onto what many believe is one of the nicest beaches on the island of Oahu, March 24, when the "Never Doubted" battalion held its first big family event since returning from Operation Iraqi Freedom II.

The sun was shining, children were playing, barbecue grills were blazing and paintballs were flying. Many agreed it was a great day to be a Soldier in Hawaii.

Battalion Commander Lt. Col. Jeffrey Eckstein and the 45th Corps Support Group (Forward) Commander Col. Stanley Tunstall recognized several spouses for their involvement in the battalion's family readiness group, or FRG.

Linda Rozsa, wife of the Company D first sergeant, was recognized with the Commander's Award for Public Service for her volunteerism while the battalion was deployed.

Maj. Adrienne Eckstein, the commander's wife, was recognized and awarded the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal for her leadership within the FRG.

Also, another 40 family members were recognized with Commemorative Operation Iraqi Freedom II Battalion Certificates of Appreciation for their participation within the FRGs.

After recognizing family members, the serving line opened for a classic barbecue feast. Headquarters Service Company "Sidewinders" cooks slaved for hours over hot grills to prepare lunch for more than 400 hungry Soldiers and family members.

"It was great to take part in this classic American style barbeque and family event," said HSC's Darren Moniot. "I don't have any family with me today, but it is nice seeing all the Soldiers enjoying quality time with theirs."

Small surf and sun made the day a great one for the beach, said several Soldiers, while many kids expressed their delight with boogie boarding the shore break. Still other youth said they enjoyed floating and swimming in the turquoise blue water.

When asked about his day, five-year-old Mateo Fallaria said, "I love going to the beach and building sand castles with my Dad."

The battalion-organized paintball tournament proved to be a big hit as well. Bellows, according to recreation officials, has one of the best paintball courses on Oahu, so Soldiers and their families took advantage of their time at the facility.

Keiki not quite big enough for paintball, showed that the inflatable bouncy house was all they needed to entertain themselves.

## Getting the badge for citizenship

Boy Scout Josh Adams, 13, visited the Pohakuloa Training Area on the Big Island recently to fulfill one of the requirements for his "Citizenship to the Nation" merit badge.

Adams took notes on one of PTA's endangered plants, the *Solanum Incompletum*, so he could report back on his visit to his troop.

Adams is the son of Tom and Evie Adams, and he belongs to Troop 56 in Kohala.

He's also working toward his "Life Badge" in the Scouts and hopes to make Eagle Scout within the next year or so.



Bob McElroy

# Tropic Lightning strikes in the boxing world

Capt. Kevin A. McQueary  
65th Engineer Battalion

A Schofield Barracks Soldier represented the Army with distinction at the 2005 U.S. Boxing National Championships held at the Olympic Training Center at Colorado Springs, Colo., last month.

Staff Sgt. Christopher Downs of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, first overpowered two opponents before Brandon Gonzales of San Jose, Calif., defeated him with a 21-12 decision in the semifinal round of the competition.

"I don't feel like I showed up tonight," Downs said in an interview with Army News Service reporter Tim Hipps, after climbing from the ring after the decision.

"It wasn't that I couldn't see the punches; I was just a little sluggish," he said of his performance.

All-Army Coach Basheer Abdullah was extremely pleased with Downs.

"He's a strong hopeful for the 2008 Olympics," said Abdullah about his 6-foot, 4-inch, 178-pound boxer. "He has all the abilities of an Olympic athlete, and he has heart and an exceptionally competitive nature."

Downs is "the perfect size for a light heavyweight," Abdullah continued. "He's got that 'Cuban' look," he said, referring to Cuba's reputation for producing remarkable pugilists.

Peter Burke, sports activities director at the Directorate of Community Activities, noticed Downs at a "boxing smoker" in



DOWN'S

from the All-Army team that year.

Downs then deployed to Kirkuk for a year, but kept in shape and planned to compete in the 2005 tryouts.

2003. At the time, Downs lacked the number of bouts needed to compete for the All-Army team, but Burke was confident in the potential he saw in Downs.

Burke helped connect Downs with the right people, but Downs still ended up being the last man cut

After returning to Schofield Barracks in December, Downs didn't take leave, but immediately began intensive training with a local coach. In early January, he then left for tryouts and made the All-Army team.

Downs pounded his way through the All-Army competition for a win. He next followed up with the gold in the Armed Forces Competition, which earned him a berth in the U.S. Boxing National Championships, and eventually the Bronze Medal.

Downs' rise in the boxing arena is an example of his discipline, dedication and perseverance, many say. Driven to excel after a brief visit with family and friends in Tennessee — he'll get back in the ring soon.

Next month, Downs will travel to Canada for an international competition.

## Sports Briefs

### Month of April

#### 8 / Today

**PBA Western Regional Bowling Tournament** — Registration closes today for this tournament with the pros, taking place April 22 – 24.

Cash prizes will be awarded to adults: first place, \$300; second, \$100; and third, \$50. (Awards are based on 100 entries; however, the prize fund will change accordingly.)

Junior bowlers can also win scholarship monies and prizes.

Cash prizes and scholarships will be determined by the number of entries in 10-person (minimum) divisions.

Call 655-0573 for more details.

#### 9 / Saturday

**Hawaii Championship Wrestling** — Watch the stars of Hawaii Championship Wrestling perform at the Tropics tomorrow and April 23. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m., and the show will start at 7 p.m.

Cost is \$5 for 12 and up, \$3 for



12 and under, and free for 5 and under. Call 655-5698 or 655-0002 for more information.

#### 12 / Tuesday

**Youth Sports League Soccer** — Registration will be underway April 12 – May 3 for youth born any year from 1989 to 2000 for Youth Soccer. Practice will begin around May 30, and the season will run from June 25 to Aug. 25.

Cost is \$40. For more information, contact your area sports director at 655-6465, 438-9336, 836-1923 or 655-0883.

**Youth Soccer Clinic** —

Registration will also be underway April 12 – May 3 (to youth born any year from 1989 to 2000) for the Youth Soccer Clinic at Aliamanu Military Reservation. Another clinic will run Friday, May 27, at Schofield Barracks.

Cost is \$12 and includes an event T-shirt. For more information, contact your area sports director at 655-6465, 438-9336, 836-1923 or 655-0883.

#### 15 / Friday

**Tennis Tournament Deadline** — An organizational meeting will take place at the Kaala Recreation Center on Schofield Barracks at 1:30 p.m. for the 2005 Singles Tennis Tournament.

Active duty Soldiers are invited to participate in the tourney taking place at the tennis courts at the Martinez Physical Fitness Center, Building 488, Schofield Barracks, from April 19 – 22 at 6 to 10 p.m.

Divisions of competition include men's and women's open and novice. Competitors must have their own rackets; however, game balls will be provided.

The number of entries received will determine the tournament format; divisions may be com-

bined.

The Sports Office must receive all entries, no later than close of business, April 15. Submit entry forms to the USAG-HI Sports Office, Kaala Recreation Center, Bldg. 556, Schofield Barracks, Stop 112.

For more information, contact Peter Burke at 655-9914 or 655-0856.

#### 22 / Friday

**PBA Western Regional Bowling Tournament** — The Schofield Bowling Center will host the annual PBA Tournament with some of the top bowling professionals in the United States from April 22 – 24.

Admission is free.

Call 655-0573 for more details.

**Intramural Softball Season Deadline** — Participate in this year's intramural softball season, getting underway May 2 – Aug. 26. Pick up applications at the USAG-HI Sports Office or Martinez Physical Fitness Center, and hand them in no later than April 22.

Call 655-0856 or 655-0101 for more information.

#### Ongoing

**Summer Learn to Swim**

**Program** — Learn to Swim takes participants level by level from their first step into the water, to relative ease and proficiency with standard swimming skills.

Registration for Level I, "Introduction to Water Skills," is underway now at Richardson Pool, Schofield Barracks, from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Cost is \$40 for nine, 45-minute classes.

Registration is first-come, first-served; call 655-9698 to confirm your spot.

The Tripler, Helemano and Aliamanu pools will also hold Level I and other courses. Registration at these locations begins in June. Call the pool nearest to you for more information.

**Golf 4 Food and Fun** — Get a team together any Tuesday from 2:30 – 4:30 p.m. at Nagorski Golf Course on Fort Shafter, and then play golf for only \$15 per person.

Cost includes a nine-hole green fee, a foursome platter of pupus, a pitcher of beverage, a lucky door prize entry and a chance to win other prizes.

Call 438-9587 for more details.

**Intramural Bowling** — MWR

continued on page B-5

# Underdogs upset defending champs



Daryl Slate, a forward on the HHC, 25th ID (L) team, jumps over defenders for an uncontested layup during the first of two men's intramural basketball championship games at Fort Shafter, April 1.

*HHC, 25th ID (L) sends medics back to Tripler with 63-49 beating*

Story and Photos by  
Sgt. Sean Kimmons  
Staff Writer

The odds were against the fifth-seeded Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 25th Infantry Division (Light), men's intramural basketball team when they set foot inside the humid Fort Shafter gym April 1.

The team was scheduled to face the two-time defending champion Medical Company A, Tripler Army Medical Clinic, for the championship. TAMC was undefeated in the playoffs and commanded a 13-2 record coming into the game.

Because of their stellar performance in the 16-week season, the TAMC team earned the number one seed in the playoffs, but would have to fall twice to the 16-6 HHC team in order for them to lose their third consecutive championship.

The pressure was on the underdog, but the HHC team handled it like pros in the fast-paced games.

In the first half of the first game, no defense was in sight for both teams as three-pointers and easy lay-ups were often. HHC took the lead at halftime, 36-28.

The second half was all HHC, as they controlled most of the half.

With four minutes left in the game, HHC played good defense and took a 13-point lead. HHC eventually showed TAMC they wanted the win more. They took the first game, 62-50.

Astonished by the outcome but not completely out, TAMC battled more effectively against HHC in the beginning of the second game.

The lead switched off and on, and ended up tied with four minutes left in the half.

HHC turned up the heat and came out with the lead at halftime, 27-24.

About three minutes into the second half, TAMC tied the game again with a lay-up. A couple minutes later, TAMC took the lead



Daryl Slate shares his championship trophy with his daughter Essence, 1, after the award presentation.

after a three-pointer.

TAMC then hit another three-pointer on their next possession to put them up, 35-33.

The TAMC lead faded quickly as HHC showed more determination with nine minutes left in the game. After a lay-up and foul shot, HHC led 43-37.

Three minutes later, HHC extended their lead to 11 points.

The TAMC coach called a timeout with three minutes left in the game, to talk things over with his team. Down by more than 10 points, the smell of a TAMC upset was in the air, but a minute later, HHC was still hot and took a 14-point lead.

"All we were worried about was rebounding and giving them one shot," David Smith, a shooting guard for the HHC team, said after HHC won the championship game, 63-49.

"We played a 1-2-2 defense, so they couldn't get any shots off at the three-point line," Smith said about their successful game plan.



During the first game, Deanna Curd cheers on her husband Kenyon, a small forward on the HHC, 25th ID (L) team.



Medical Company A, TAMC, talks strategy for its next game, following a 62-50 loss to HHC, 25th ID (L).

## Men's Intramural Basketball Tournament

- 1st - HHC, 25th ID (L)
- 2nd - Medical Co. A, TAMC
- 3rd - 39th MP
- 4th - HQ PACOM
- 5th - 71st Chem.
- 6th - Co. C, 25th Avn.
- 7th - 406th MI
- 8th - 30th Signal Bn.
- 9th - 29th Eng. Bn.
- 10th - Inst. Troop Command



## Sports Briefs

continued from page B-4

is seeking teams from units, sections or directorates in the Fort Shafter area for intramural bowling. Call 438-6733.

**Richardson Pool** — The pool on Schofield Barracks is open Mondays through Friday for active duty physical training from 6 – 8 a.m. and for open swim from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Also enjoy open swim on the weekends from 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. Call 655-1128 for more information.

**Leilehua Pro Shop Specials** — Visit the Pro Shop after 6 p.m. for

"Leilehua After Dark" specials and get 10-percent off all merchandise. Additionally, for every \$50 you purchase in merchandise, receive a free range balls token and free use of training aids for the driving range. Call 655-4653 for more details.

**Post Gyms** — The Fort Shafter Gym is closed on Sundays, and the Aliamanu Gym is open on Sundays from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. Call 438-1152 or 836-0338 for more information.

**Water Exercise Class** — Participate in this class at the Richardson Pool, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 a.m. – noon. Cost is \$2 per class, or you can purchase a punch card for 10 classes for \$15.

Call 655-9698 for more details.

**Spinning Class** — Spinning, the newest group exercise class, is available at the Health and Fitness Center on Schofield Barracks. Patrons can hop aboard deluxe "Revmaster" stationary bikes, under the tutelage of certified instructors, and guided by imagery to "climb hills," sprint or take in the "scenery," for a challenging workout. Call 655- 8007 for more information.

**Driving Range** — The golf driving range at Leilehua Golf Course is open until 9:30 p.m., Mondays through Fridays. Call 655-4653 for details.

**Coaching** — Youth Sports is

looking for volunteer coaches for basketball, baseball, softball, soccer, flag football and cheerleading.

If you're interested, call AMR at 836-1923, Fort Shafter at 438-9336 or Schofield Barracks at 655-6465.

**Ladies Golf Clinic** — Want to learn the game of golf for free? Visit the Leilehua Golf Course Driving Range the first Sunday of every month, from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. and learn some tips. Call 655-4653 to sign-up.

