

INSIDE

Senate names 20th Secretary

ARMY NEWS SERVICE
News Release

WASHINGTON – The Honorable Pete Geren became the 20th Secretary of the Army, Friday, following his nomination by President George W. Bush and confirmation by the U.S. Senate.

As Secretary of the Army, Geren has statutory responsibility for all matters relating to the U.S. Army: manpower, personnel, reserve affairs, installations, environmental issues, weapons systems and equipment acquisition, communications and financial management.

Geren is responsible for the Department of the Army's (DA) annual budget and supplemental of \$170 billion. He leads a work force of more than one million active duty and reserve component Soldiers; 230,000 DA civilian employees; and 280,000 contracted service personnel.

He has stewardship over 15 million acres of land. Caring for Soldiers and their families has been Geren's top priority since his days serving as the 28th Under Secretary of the Army. In an opening statement during his confirmation hearing last month, he reaffirmed that commitment.

"My year as Under Secretary of the Army taught me much; my four months as Acting Secretary of the Army taught me much more," he said. "I have been inspired by the selfless service of our Soldiers, and humbled by the sacrifice of their families."

Geren was the Under Secretary of the Army until Feb. 21, 2006. He was named Acting Secretary of the Army, March 9.

Geren joined the Defense Department in September of 2001 to serve as Special Assistant to the Secretary of Defense with responsibilities in the areas of inter-agency initiatives, legislative affairs and



Sgt. 1st Class Jason Shepherd | U.S. Army, Pacific, Public Affairs

The 20th Secretary of the Army Pete Geren visits Hawaii's Fort Shafter, July 2. Geren received updates on Army assets at U.S. Army, Pacific, and at Schofield Barracks' 25th Infantry Division.

special projects. He also served as Acting Secretary of the Air Force from July to November 2005.

Before joining the Defense Department, Geren was an attorney and businessman in Fort Worth, Texas.

From 1989 until his retirement in 1997, Geren was a member of the U.S. Congress, representing the 12th Congressional District of Texas for four terms. He served on the Armed Services, Science & Technology, and the Public Works and Transportation committees during his tenure in the Congress.

Plus-up progress may lead to troop reductions

JOHN J. KRUZEL
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – Now at full strength, the U.S. troop plus-up in Iraq is showing "definitive progress," and the number of forces serving in Iraq's Multinational Division North could be halved by summer 2009, Maj. Gen. Benjamin R. Mixon said, Friday.

A reduction of U.S. forces under the general's command could begin as early as January 2008, he told Pentagon reporters via videoconference.



Mixon

Mixon, commander of both Multinational Division North and the U.S. Army's 25th Infantry Division, is responsible for six Iraqi provinces in northern Iraq, including the city of Baqubah, site of the ongoing Operation Arrowhead Ripper.

He said he has given Lt. Gen. Raymond Odierno, commander, Multinational Corps Iraq, a plan indicating a possible reduction of force in Multinational Division North during 2008.

Mixon said the current debate over troop withdrawal should revolve around reaching a strategic "end state."

"It seems to me that we should first decide what we want the end state to be in Iraq, and how is that end state important to the United States of America, to this region and to the world, and then determine how we can reach that end state, and how much time that will take," he said. "To me, that seems to be the most important thing, because there will be consequences of a rapid withdrawal from Iraq."

"It cannot be a strategy based on, 'Well, we need to leave,'" he added. "That's not a strategy, that's a withdrawal."

U.S. forces that remain in the region after a reduction could focus on training and assisting their Iraqi counterparts as needed, Mixon said.

"Over time, in a very methodical and well thought out way," he said, Multinational Division North could be drawn down to "a minimum force that would continue to work with the Iraqi forces in a training and assistance mode, have the capability to react and assist the Iraqi if required, and provide them those capabilities that they don't have, like attack aviation, Air Force fixed-wing support and medical support," he said.

Speaking about Iraq's Nineva province, the general said the provincial government and security forces there continue to grow and improve. Mixon said he has observed the 2nd and 3rd Iraqi Army Division and Iraqi police providing security to provincial residents requiring scant coalition assistance.

"Based on this assessment, I have recommended that Nineva province go to provincial Iraqi control in August," he said. Though a handover to the provincial government is a sign of progress, Mixon added that it alone won't usher in a reduction of U.S. troops, who will continue to partner with Iraqi security forces there, he said.

As part of the troop plus-up,



Combat camel

Wahiawa Elem. School kids gain an in-depth understanding of deployment life through Carl, 325th BSB's camel who does it all

A-3

News flash

In preparation for Schofield's Main Post Exchange grand opening, the PX will close Tuesday, July 24, at 1 p.m.

Also, learn more about the Civilian Education System at two briefings July 27, at Schofield's Sgt. Smith Theater.

See News Briefs, pages A-5 & A-6.

Bridging the gap

Third Brigade Special Troops Battalion Soldiers seize an opportunity to rebuild trust between city governments in Iraq

A-5



Serious fun

Children of deployed Soldiers share their experiences and live it up at Operation Purple — a free weeklong, overnight camp

B-1

This issue

- Lightning Spirit **A-2**
- Deployed Forces **A-3**
- News Briefs **A-5**
- MWR **B-2**
- Sports & Fitness **B-4**



OIF



The distinguished Order of the Daedalians award is presented annually to the Army unit that's demonstrated outstanding professionalism and best contributed to aviation flight safety.

Left – Brig. Gen. Frank Wiercinski, 25th Inf. Div. deputy commanding general, support, speaks with 2-6th Cav., 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, troops during the Order of the Daedalian award ceremony at Forward Operating Base Warrior, Kirkuk, Iraq, July 10.

2-6th Cav. named best in aviation

Story and Photo by
SPC. MIKE ALBERTS

3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

KIRKUK, Iraq – The Department of the Army (DA) recognized the 2nd Squadron, 6th U.S. Cavalry Regiment, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, 25th Infantry Division (ID), as the best Army aviation unit during an award ceremony at Forward Operating Base Warrior, here, July 10.

Brig. Gen. Frank Wiercinski, 25th ID deputy commanding general for support, presented the 2-6th Cav. leadership with the Order of the Daedalian's 2006 Brig. Gen. Carl I. Hutton Memorial Award.

The distinguished trophy and award is presented annually to the U.S. Army unit determined by the DA to have demonstrated outstanding professionalism and to have made invaluable contributions to the advancement of flight safety in Army aviation.

The Order of Daedalians ("the Order") dates to World War I and honors aviators commissioned as officers and rated as military pilots no later than the Armistice Nov. 11, 1918. The Order perpetuates its names as the "first to fly our country's airplanes in time of war."

Appropriately, it was 2-6th Cavalry's preparation for war and accomplishments while at war that punctuated its choice as the Army's

most outstanding aviation unit.

According to Lt. Col. James Barker, squadron commander, 2-6th, prior to deployment his unit transformed from the 1st Battalion (Attack), 25th CAB, to the "Fighting Sixth," completing numerous training exercises perfecting the employment of multiple Army aviation assets for the air/ground team.

Since deploying to Iraq, 2-6th has fought in Northern Iraq, supporting Multi-National Division-North – conducting reconnaissance, security, air assault, and attack operations in direct support of the 3IBCT. Among those operations, the battle at Dugmat, Iraq, will be forever memorialized in unit lore.

In the early afternoon on Nov. 7, 2006, brigade leadership received a "troops in contact" call. A 3IBCT battalion military transition team and Iraqi Army elements were receiving heavy machine gun and rocket-propelled grenade fire from more than 40 insurgents.

During the next dozen hours, 2-6th Cav. and other elements of the Lightning Horse squadron, would employ multiple teams of attack, troop transport and surveillance helicopters, as well as other Army and Air Force fixed wing assets operating in unison without a single accident in support of Soldiers on the ground, a testament to the squadron's exceptional safety record since being deployed.

The battle at Dugmat resulted in the destruction of one anti-Iraqi force (AIF) truck destroyed, ten AIF killed-in-action, three AIF wounded-in-action, three AIF detained and one AIF safe house destroyed.

During the award ceremony, Wiercinski and Col. A. Thomas Ball, commander, 25th CAB, both commented on the exceptional nature of the air/ground integration that 2-6th Cav-

"Be very proud of this award and never forget that every single one of you contributed ... to our success."

Lt. Col. James Barker
Commander, 2-6th Cav.

ally provides for ground commanders in Multi National Division-North. The squadron's commander ensured his Soldiers understood who was responsible for his squadron's success.

"It is because of your efforts that we have been recognized with this prestigious aviation award," Barker said to his Soldiers. "Be very proud of this award and never forget that every single one of you contributed something to our success and recognition."

Army launches chain teaching on PTSD, TBI

ARMY NEWS SERVICE
News Release

WASHINGTON – The Army launched a "chain-teaching" program to help Soldiers and their families identify symptoms and seek treatment for those suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and mild traumatic brain injury (TBI).

The chain-teaching program, available at Army Knowledge On-

line or www.us.army.mil, includes a standardized script and supporting audiovisual products that leaders will use to teach Soldiers about the signs and symptoms of these behavioral and mental health issues.

All active duty and reserve Soldiers will receive the training within 90 days of the launch.

"We emphasize that every commander needs to be able to do an

individual assessment of each Soldier," said Col. C. Elspeth Ritchie, psychiatry consultant to the Sur-

Visit www.behavioralhealth.army.mil for more on PTSD.

geon General of the Army. "If a Soldier has an issue, that commander needs to be able to reach out and help that Soldier. Soldiers

also need to be able to help."

A version designed specifically for family readiness groups will be available, Tuesday.

"Combat is inherently brutal and difficult, and it impacts humans in different ways," said Army

Chief of Staff Gen. George Casey Jr. "We have made significant im-

SEE PTSD, A-4

SEE MIXON, A-3

We want to hear from you...

The Hawaii Army Weekly welcomes articles from Army organizations, announcements from the general public about community events of interest to the military community, and letters and commentaries.

If you have newsworthy ideas or stories you'd like to write, coordinate with the managing editor at 655-4816, or e-mail editor@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

The editorial deadline for articles and announcements is the Friday prior to Friday publications. Prior coordination is mandatory.

Articles must be text or Word files with complete information, no abbreviations; accompanying photographs must be digital, high resolution, jpeg files with full captions and bylines.

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Chairman JCS checks morale among deployed troops

JIM GARAMONE

American Forces Press Service

BAGHDAD — Families and morale are important parts of the equation in assessing the health of the force, according to the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Marine Gen. Peter Pace arrived here Monday to meet with leaders and troops in an effort to assess troop morale in U.S. Central Command during a swing through the region.

Pace and Army Command Sgt. Maj. William J. Gainey, the senior enlisted advisor to the chairman, will meet with troops all over the country. Also helping with the assessment is retired Marine Col. Barney Barnum, the deputy assistant secretary of the Navy for reserve affairs. Barnum received the Medal of Honor for actions in combat in Vietnam in 1969.

"What's important from a military standpoint is what we see on the battlefield," Pace said. "I think from the standpoint of stress on the force, what's important is what you see in the kitchens. Both of these aspects need to be taken into consideration when looking at the health of the force."

Tour lengths, dwell time between deployments, and the number of tours affect both troop and family morale, the chairman said.

"We need to make sure those who volunteer — that one percent of the nation that signs up to protect the other 99 percent — know that their service is valued and that we provide for them as best we



Air Force Staff Sgt. D. Myles Cullen | Department of Defense

can," Pace said. The war on terror is the first prolonged war the United States has fought with an all-volunteer force.

"There is no historical data to go back to," Pace said. "That's why it's really important for me and everybody else to constantly talk to people and listen to them. Retention is still extremely high, higher than it was before the war, but you just can't take numbers like that and assume that it means everything is just fine."

And families are incredibly important to the equation. Pace said the force today is an "all-recruited force."

"You recruit individuals, but you retain families," he said.

"It's important to remember that it is not just the men and women in uniform that are making the sacrifices," he said. "The families are the ones changing the calendars on the refrigerator doors."

Pace said there are many ways to quantify morale of the force. Re-enlistment is strong, "but that's not good enough for me," he said. "I want to get out and talk to the families. I want to look the spouses in the eyes and talk to them about what we're doing and why we're doing it and get their reactions."



Jeremy S. Buddemeier | U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii, Public Affairs

Rendering honors

Col. Timothy Ryan, 25th Infantry Division (ID) rear detachment commander, explains the background and history of Schofield Barracks' Tropic Lightning Memorial to Jack Wagner, commanding officer, Combat Infantrymen's Association, Monday.

Wagner presented a placard (at inset) to Ryan to recognize the sacrifices past and present 25th ID Soldiers have made while serving the nation.

Founded in 1986, the Combat Infantrymen's Association is a nonprofit organization comprised of Soldiers who have received the Combat Infantry Badge. The organization has chapters in 20 states, including Hawaii.

Upcoming changes in command

The 25th Infantry Division and the U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii, community is invited to attend several changes of command ceremonies taking place in July and August.

The change of command ceremony is a time-honored tradition that formally symbolizes the continuity of authority when a command is passed from one commander to another.

Local ceremonies will be preceded by an awards ceremony, 30 minutes prior to the change of command ceremony. Point of contact (POC) for more details is Sgt. Maj. Robert Pittman, 655-0283 (unless otherwise noted).

The following ceremonies will be held at Sills Field, Schofield Barracks, unless otherwise noted.

- July 31, 10 a.m., 45th Sustainment Brigade. Col. Michael T. McBride passes command to Col. Clay B. Hatcher.
- Aug. 2, 10 a.m., 599th Transportation Group. Col. Kathi L. Kreklow passes command to Col. Susan A. Davidson on board the USS Missouri Memorial. (POC is Donna Klapakis, 656-6420.)

LIGHTNING SPIRIT

Placing others before self solidifies team

CHAPLAIN (MAJ.) SCOTT C. KENNEDY

Family Life Chaplain

Selfless service is one of our Army Values and, in this time of war, it is the one we are being asked to exemplify on a daily basis on battlefields around the world and living rooms around the country.

What is selfless service? One Army Web site defines it this way: "Put the welfare of the nation, the Army and your subordinates before your own. Selfless service is larger than just one person. In serving your country, you are doing your duty loyally, without thought of recognition or gain. The basic building block of selfless service is the commitment of each team member to go a little further, endure a little longer, and look a little closer to see how he or she can add to the effort."

As a chaplain, I want to honor all the Soldiers who have given the ultimate sacrifice and have paid the ultimate price for freedom in service of their country. And for every Soldier we have lost, at least 10 more have been injured. These brave and dedicated Soldiers have epitomized selfless service, and we owe them a debt of gratitude.

As a Family Life chaplain, I know firsthand how many families, rear detachment command teams, crisis response team members and family readiness support assistants and their teams have also served tirelessly in support of families and their deployed Soldiers. I have seen a lot of personal sacrifice — dedicated people — going the extra mile. It makes me proud to be associated with such a service-oriented organization.

As I write this, I am very aware of the importance of the team concept in relation to our role as an Army family. While stationed in Korea, I remember watching the Armed Forces Network. One of the slogans they regularly repeated was "T.E.A.M.: Together Everyone Accomplishes More."

I thought it was a little corny then — at least overplayed — but it's true. It takes the entire community to pull together to accomplish the mission of family readiness so that we can support the Soldiers on the battlefield. Isolation is our primary enemy.

As John Donne put it, "No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent."

So even though we live on an island, we must not remain isolated from others in our community who can help us make it through these trying times when Soldiers and their families are either preparing for deployment, deployed or just returning from war.

One way to stay connected is through serving others. Service takes you out of your misery and allows you to invest into the life of another in a meaningful way. And soon you will discover, as St. Francis did, that "It is in giving that we receive."

Jesus equated service with love when he said, "Love one another the way I loved you. This is the very best way to love. Put your life on the line for your friends" (John 15:13, The Message).

When we think of selfless service as love it takes on a whole new meaning. This is a higher form of love, to be sure, than the one that is so easily thrown around in our culture today. This kind of love seeks to meet another's needs at our own expense, rather than seeking to meet our needs at another's expense. This is unconditional love — serving with "no strings attached" and no desire or need for recognition.

Certainly much of what goes on in the rear detachment operations in its support of Soldiers and commanders downrange, ongoing garrison support requirements here on post, family readiness requirements, religious support missions, etc., is a tireless and thankless job. But this demonstration of selfless service is a labor of love that will not go unnoticed by a loving God who rewards in public acts of service done in private (Matthew 6:4).

(Editor's Note: The Web site www.goarmy.com/life/living_the_army_values.jsp was a source for this article.)



Kennedy

248 days since last fatal accident

Soldiers, as your daily reminder to be safe, place a "red dot" on your wristwatch.

A division training holiday will be awarded for the next 100 consecutive days with no accidental fatalities. Current as of 7/18/07.

Voices of Lightning: "What is one thing that motivates you?"



"Money."

Pvt.2 Austin Melton
1-14th Inf. Regt.
Indirect Fire Infantryman



"Knowing that I am here serving my country."

Spc. Sedric Porter
84th Eng. Co.
Carpentry and Masonry



"Good leadership."

Pvt. Joseph Scott
643rd Eng. Co.
Carpentry and Masonry



"My husband and my kids."

Priscilla Thompson
Family Member



"Our baby on the way."

Spc. Christopher Trotter and wife, Alli
2-14th Cav. Regt.
Driver & Spouse

325th BSB maintains community ties through its camel

Story and Photo by
SPC. MIKE ALBERTS

3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

KIRKUK, Iraq – Carl the Camel starts his day exercising and eating breakfast to stay fit and healthy. Carl and a mechanic then perform safety checks on their vehicle before delivering candy to Iraqi children. Later, Carl visits a doctor at the brigade health clinic, flies in a helicopter, and helps install a cab on a heavy equipment transport truck. So who's Carl the Camel?

Carl's the two-foot stuffed animal that Soldiers of the 325th Brigade Support Battalion (BSB) bring to life to tell their story to the "kamali'i," or children, of their adopted elementary school on Oahu. After one day with Carl, the children of Wahiawa Elementary School gain an understanding of the primary support functions of the 325th BSB "Mustangs" of the 25th Infantry Division's 3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team (3IBCT).

"We wanted to bring deployment home to our families and home to the children of our adopted school," explained Lt. Col. James D. Hess, battalion commander, 325th BSB. Hess' unit provides flexible and responsive combat service and combat health support to the 3IBCT and establishes support op-

erations to sustain all elements throughout the brigade's area of operation.

After Hess took command of the Mustangs about two years ago, his battalion resumed a relationship with Wahiawa Elementary School. Since then, he and his Soldiers have engaged in several outreach projects with the school, including basic facility improvements and reading programs.

When the unit deployed to Iraq, Hess refused to put the relationship on hold simply because his Soldiers were not physically on the island.

"We wanted to figure out a way to explain to the children our mission here in Iraq and the different things this battalion does to support third brigade," said Hess. "So I bought the stuffed animal and named it Carl. We developed a story line and ultimately produced a great 15-minute video of adventure."

The Soldier tasked to bring the concept to reality was Capt. Thomas Taylor.

"Basically, we wanted [to show] everyone what it is we do out here," said Taylor, communications officer, 325th BSB. "The biggest challenge was figuring out how to make [Carl] come to life – how to make the camel seem real," he said. "We only had one camera and needed to figure out the different angles for the different scenes in

the video."

Taylor edited and planned the story while his Soldiers, Staff Sgt. Jess Pajela and Sgt. Teddy Solomon, directed and wrote the script.

"On paper, it's kinda boring for kids," admitted Pajela, communications non-commissioned officer-in-charge, 325th BSB. "The hardest part was showing the camel doing active things."

In the video, Carl travels through the battalion's headquarters, as well as its distribution, maintenance and medical companies. During his trip, Carl sips milk, runs on a treadmill, lifts weights, drives a humvee, hands out candy and flies in a medical evacuation helicopter.

"The whole project took about two months," said Pajela. "But it was important. I think the media shows a lot of negative things that happen here in Iraq, so I loved the idea of us depicting something positive about the war."

Pajela's collaborator agreed.

"Kids are easily influenced, especially by television," said Solomon, also from communications, 325th BSB. "Seeing something that is positive from Soldiers in their community is a good thing and lets us give something back to them. They've sent us letters and things. This was our little way of saying, 'We're thinking about you too:'"



Carl the Camel spends the day traveling through the 325th Brigade Support Battalion's headquarters, as well as its distribution, maintenance and medical companies. During his trip, Carl is filmed sipping milk, running on a treadmill, lifting weights and driving a humvee in the battalion's video for its adopted school, Wahiawa Elementary.

Mixon: As al Qaeda influence diminishes, Iraqis re-establish basic security

CONTINUED FROM A-1

which reached full strength in mid-June, Mixon received two brigades based out of Fort Lewis, Wash. The general credits the additional forces with helping to improve security in Diyala province, and cited Operation Arrowhead Ripper that was launched last month.

"Operation Arrowhead Ripper kicked off on June 19 with the arrival of 3/2 Stryker Brigade and will continue until Baqubah is secure and the government center there is functioning," he said. "We have had to clear numerous complex obstacles, including 24 houses booby-trapped with explosives ... and 100 oth-

er types of improvised explosive devices."

In the ongoing operation, troops are clearing Baqubah's city blocks in an "intentionally slow" fashion to reduce the number of casualties. To date, coalition and Iraqi security forces have killed more than 90 al Qaeda operatives, discovered 45 weapons and munitions caches and detained about 130 suspected al Qaeda operatives, Mixon said.

During raids in Western Baqubah neighborhoods, troops also have uncovered al Qaeda safe houses, torture houses, medical clinics and bomb-making factories.

Local leaders, tribal sheikhs and the Western Baqubah's citizens are cooperating with combined

forces, providing them valuable information about al Qaeda, Mixon said.

"These people are coming forward because they have increased confidence in their security forces, and they are simply tired of al Qaeda dominating their lives and terrorizing their neighborhoods, as they have done over the last several months," he said.

Mixon specified that al Qaeda operatives in his area of responsibility primarily are Sunni Iraqis, some of whom received weapons and explosives training as members of the former Iraqi regime or army. The 1920s Revolution, composed of "principally former Ba'athists" and others who oppose the new Iraqi government, is one of the multiple groups compris-

ing the greater insurgency, he said.

Listing signs of progress in Baqubah, Mixon said Iraqi forces are beginning to take responsibility for security, and that a "small influx" of residents are returning to the city they had previously fled. The city's municipal employees also are working to repair the water and power infrastructure, the general said.

"We still have a long way to go in Baqubah and Diyala," he said, "but with the influence of al Qaeda diminished, the security situation will now allow Iraqi security forces and government officials to re-establish basic securities for the citizens of Baqubah."

(Editor's Note: John J. Krusel writes for the American Forces Press Service.)



Kole Miller | 25th Infantry Division Protocol Office

4,000 reasons to phone home

WAHIAWA — Col. Todd McCaffrey (center), commander, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, poses with members of Veterans of Foreign Wars at the Wahiawa-Whitmore Village Neighborhood Board meeting, Monday night. The VFW presented 2nd SBCT with 4,000 phone cards to allow the unit's Soldiers to "phone home" during its upcoming deployment.

From left to right are Alfredo Antonio, Maj. Adelaido Godinez, John Chapman, Frank Lamson, Norbert Enos, Lisa McCaffrey, McCaffrey, Richard Wong, Nick Young and Ben Achodio. Richard Horan, not pictured, coordinated the collection of the phone cards.

PTSD: Web site provides tools, care

CONTINUED FROM A-1

provements ... but we must aggressively work research, prevention and treatment of these injuries and encourage Soldiers and their families to seek treatment."

All Soldiers in combat suffer stress, but most recover quickly. Those whose symptoms persist may have PTSD.

PTSD and mild TBI are genuine medical and psychological conditions that can negatively impact a Soldier's personal life, professional abilities and health. Soldiers may be affected by only one or both conditions at the same time.

By seeking help, Soldiers can receive professional assessments that direct them toward the right care for their specific conditions.

Previously referred to as "shell

shock" or "battle fatigue," PTSD follows a terrifying physical or emotional event, and causes the individual to have persistent, frightening thoughts and flashbacks. Soldiers with PTSD may have any of three kinds of symptoms for months after the event: re-experiencing the event over and over; avoiding people or feelings that remind them of the event; and feeling on-edge.

Mild TBI, also known as a concussion, is caused by trauma to the head but may have no physical signs. It is accompanied by loss of consciousness, loss of memory of events immediately before or after the trauma and confusion.

TBI and PTSD share such common symptoms as difficulty con-

centrating, memory problems and irritability, but TBI symptoms can also include headaches, dizziness and balance problems. A person with PTSD may have nightmares and anxiety that worsen.

Soldiers may still suffer from PTSD even if they were not hospitalized or personally injured, just as they may suffer from mild TBI without having been knocked out.

The chain-teaching program doesn't replace behavioral-health assessment tools already in effect, but provides emphasis and education to reinforce the Army's commitment to give the best health care possible.

(Editor's Note: Information provided by the U.S. Army Medical Command Public Affairs.)

Father re-enlists son in Iraq

Story and Photo by
SPC. DANIEL BEARL
Task Force Lightning Public Affairs

TIKRIT, Iraq — When Soldiers re-enlist, they often have fun choosing where to hold the ceremony and who will swear them in. Many Soldiers opt for exotic or unique locations, or high ranking officers to read them their oath.

But for one Soldier, there was just one person he wanted to raise his right hand with — his father.

When Sgt. Robert Smith, an intelligence analyst with the 25th Infantry Division, decided to re-enlist while deployed to Iraq, he took advantage of a unique situation. His father, retired Lt. Col. Jackie Smith, was working as a civilian contractor about 80 miles south in Baghdad, so Robert asked him to come up to swear him in.

"It's nice to have him here," Robert said. "Hopefully he'll be able to come out when I get promoted."

For the ceremony, Robert and several of his co-workers crammed into a small conference room in the building where he works. After some words from his supervisors, Robert stood across from his father, raised his right hand and repeated the oath of enlistment.

"This is probably the most important day of my life since the birth of my son," Jackie said. "It's my pleasure to be here to swear him in."

Jackie, from Olathe, Kan., spent 28 years in the military. He is currently working as a civilian contractor with coalition forces in Baghdad and is on his third deployment to Iraq.



Retired Lt. Col. Jackie Smith swears in his son Sgt. Robert Smith during a re-enlistment ceremony at Contingency Operating Base Speicher, near Tikrit, Iraq. The elder Smith works as a civilian contractor in Baghdad and traveled to Tikrit to re-enlist his son.

News Briefs

Send calendar announcements to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com

20 / Today

Road Closure — Schofield Barracks' Foote Avenue, between Lewis and Heard streets, will be closed through Aug. 13 to allow for the installation of a storm drain.

21 / Saturday

Gate Hours — Contract guards will begin working on the gates at Schofield Barracks, Wheeler Army Air Field, Fort Shafter and Tripler Army Medical Center starting Saturday, July 21.

•Fort Shafter's Buckner Gate and Tripler's main gate will be open around the clock. Commercial traffic and vehicles not registered on post are required to use these gates to access Tripler and Ft. Shafter.

•The front gate at Aliamanu Military Reservation (Red Hill side) will be open around the clock for inbound and outbound traffic.

•AMR's rear gate (Pearl Harbor side) will be open from 5:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m. for inbound and outbound traffic. The Patch Gate will be open during the same hours on weekdays only. Call 656-6733 for more information.

23 / Monday

ACAP Briefings — Soldiers who are separating from the Army must attend a mandatory Army Career Alumni Program pre-separation briefing at the ACAP Center, Building 690, Room 3H. Soldiers may walk in Mondays-Fridays from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. The next session of briefings runs Monday-Thursday, July 23-27.

All ACAP events are held at the Aloha Building 690, Room 3H. Call

SEE NEWS BRIEFS, A-6



Soldiers with the 25th Infantry Division's 3rd Brigade Special Troops Battalion (BSTB) help re-establish traffic by cooperating to construct a bypass road around the Sahiara Bridge in Tuz Khurmatu, Iraq.

Left — The finished bypass road (foreground) allows commercial traffic to flow between Salah ah Din and Kirkuk provinces after anti-Iraqi forces destroyed the bridge. Soldiers from 3rd BSTB partnered with Iraqi government officials and Iraqi Security Forces to build the bypass road.

3rd BSTB fixes bypass, strengthens bonds

Story and Photos by
SPC. MIKE ALBERTS
3rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs

KIRKUK, Iraq — The Sahiara Bridge stands in the middle of the desert, miles from the nearest city. The bridge spans a moderate riverbed linking a primary transportation route between Baghdad and Kirkuk. It serves no particular military purpose; Iraqi citizens use it for personal and commercial travel. Still, insurgents destroyed it.

Traffic backed up for miles. Vehicles trying to traverse the riverbed were stranded. Several vehicles overturned and countless others searched for alternative routes. Perhaps insurgents anticipated that result. What they couldn't anticipate, however, was the cooperation and solidarity that resulted between local governments and coalition and Iraqi security forces.

Soldiers of the 25th Infantry Division's 3rd Brigade Special Troops Battalion (3BSTB) partnered with local government officials and elements of the Iraqi Army and Iraqi police to secure, design and build a critical bypass road re-establishing commercial and other vehicular traffic around the Sahiara Bridge, in Tuz Khurmatu, Iraq, recently.

The Sahiara Bridge is located in the Salah ah Din Province, which is nestled between the provinces of Diyala to the south and Kirkuk to the north. According to Gov. Abdul-Rahman Mustafa, governor of Kirkuk Province, the bridge is a critical economic link between Baghdad and Iraq's northern provinces. The bridge was destroyed June 2, and the fix needed to be swift. Soldiers of the 3BSTB responded.

"We were asked to build the bypass around the bridge," said Lt. Col. Bryan Truesdell, commander, 3BSTB. "But this project was a true partnership between coalition forces, the government of Iraq and Iraqi security forces," he continued.

According to Truesdell, various brigade elements, Iraqi police and Iraqi army forces provided security at the site before and during construction. To cut, grade and prepare the road, 3BSTB A Company engineers provided the assault and obstacle (A&O) platoon that collaborated with engineers from the 4th Iraqi Army, as well as coalition force engineers from three other elements including: the 618th Engineer Co., 19th Engineer Battalion, 19th Engineer Battalion Headquarters and 105th Engineer Group Headquarters. A local Iraqi contractor paved the road.

The entire project took about two and a

half weeks from concept planning to completion, according to Capt. Frank Flowers, commander, A Co., 3BSTB. Flowers, a 15-year veteran and native of Hillsboro, Mo., coordinated assets and supervised the work in the field.

"Our biggest challenge was getting all the necessary people together with the proper equipment," said Flowers. "We're a light unit and are limited on the type of equipment that we have. We needed [other assets] to borrow equipment and we were able to get [those assets] from the units [at Contingency Operating Base Speicher] and from the Iraqi Army," he said.

"The actual road work took about five days, which was an accomplishment because of all the equipment challenges and [environmental] conditions," he continued, "but we all worked together and the result was a very good approximately half-mile bypass road."

Two of Flowers' Soldiers who participated in the construction were Sgt. 1st Class Mark Beck, of Defiance, Ohio, and Spc. Luis Miranda, of Irvington, Ky. Both appreciated the opportunity to contribute.

"Going out there and doing something for the Iraqi people was a unique opportunity," said Beck. Beck managed the A&O platoon, which was principally responsible

for cutting and grading the road. "It was a great feeling to be able to help the local citizens directly," he said.

Miranda agreed.

"The best part of it was that we worked really hard and did the best we could to help out the Iraqi people," he said. Miranda operates light construction equipment and spent most of his time operating a bucket loader.

"When you think about it, that's what our mission is all about. We're here to help rebuild Iraq, and we actually got to go out and physically rebuild a part of it."

For Truesdell, though, helping the Iraqi people as a joint, cooperative effort had benefits beyond simply resolving traffic congestion.

"I was told by [the governor of the Salah ah Din Province] that this bypass goes a long way in building trust between the Salah ah Din and Kirkuk governments, both of whom demonstrated their ability and willingness to work together," Truesdell said. "That's the other aspect of this. The project demonstrates to the Iraqi people that their governments are healthy and vibrant, and that they are able to work together at the provincial level."

News Briefs

From A-5

655-1028 to schedule an appointment.

25 / Wednesday

PX Grand Opening — Come join in the celebration as the Schofield Barracks Main Post Exchange hosts a grand opening ceremony Wednesday, July 25, beginning at 9 a.m. The ceremony will include a blessing of the facility, free food samples and giveaways. In preparation for the grand opening, the PX will close Tuesday, July 24 at 1 p.m.

26 / Thursday

Quarterly Retirement Ceremony — Come say mahalo to warriors for their patriotic service at the Quarterly Retirement

ment Ceremony, July 26, 2 p.m., at the Schofield Barracks Nehelani Banquet and Conference Center.

27 / Friday

Quarterly Volunteer Ceremony — The 25th Infantry Division's rear detachment will recognize outstanding volunteers in the community at its Quarterly Volunteer Ceremony, July 27, 2 p.m., in the Schofield Barracks Command Conference Room.

Civilian Education Briefing — Learn more about the Civilian Education System, a program to enhance leadership and educational opportunities for Army civilians throughout their careers, during two separate sessions at the Sgt. Smith Theater, July 27. The identical briefings run from 10-11 a.m. and 2-3 p.m.

August

1 / Wednesday

Oahu South Town Hall — Let your voice be heard at the bimonthly Oahu South Town Hall meeting Aug. 1 at 6:30 p.m. at the Aliamanu Military Reservation (AMR) Chapel.

Deployment Financial Checklist — The NASD Investor Education Foundation, the National Endowment for Financial Education (NEFE) and the National Military Family Association have created the Family Financial Checklist. The checklist details financial commitments that service members need to be aware of when preparing to deploy and helps service members and their families discuss important financial issues before deployment such as credit card bills, mortgage

payments, taxes and insurance. Visit www.SaveAndInvest.org for more information.

Financial Planning Courses — You are not alone when it comes to traversing the financial planning mystery. Join a one-hour class now to learn more about managing debt, investing wisely, maintaining a good credit rating and planning for retirement.

An expert in military financial affairs will be on-site to give you important direction, answer questions, and leave you feeling very well informed about your future financial planning options.

Courses run Aug. 11 & 18 at 9 a.m. at Fort Shafter Flats' 9th RRC, Building 1557, Room 112. Also, mark your calendars for classes Sept. 8 & 15.

Contact Angela Brown at 438-2243 or e-mail angela.brown@9rrc.army.mil.

Law School for Officers — The Office of the Judge Advocate General is accepting applications for the Army's Funded Legal Education Program.

Under this program, the Army projects sending up to 25 active duty commissioned officers (second lieutenants through captain) to law school at government expense as funding permits.

Selected officers will remain on active duty while attending law school. Interested officers should review Chapter 14, AR 27-1 (Judge Advocate General's Funded Legal Education Program) and contact their local Staff Judge Advocate for details.

6 / Monday

Advisory Meeting — The Schofield Barracks Post Exchange/Commissary/Nehelani Advisory Council will meet Aug. 6 in the Koa 1 Room of the Nehelani from 10:15-11:15 a.m. Call 655-0497.



PAU HANA



www.25idl.army.mil/haw.asp

"When work is finished."

FRIDAY, JULY 20, 2007

Story and Photos by
AIKO BRUM
Chief, Command Information

"Ten ... nine ... eight," the camp counselors shouted, counting down.

"Take a seat. Take a seat. Take a load off your feet."

Rhythmic chants and catchy jingles were in plentiful supply when about 50 military youth participating in Operation Purple converged on the Tropics, Schofield Barracks, for a no-holds barred mission — a day filled with fun, July 12.

Operation Purple is a free, weeklong overnight summer camp, supported by grants, especially designed for children of deployed service members. The camp provides trips, activities, team-building skills and a service project for campers.

The overall goal is "to bring together youth who are experiencing some stage of a deployment and the stress that goes along with it," according to the National Military Family Association, which created the program, now active at 34 locations in 26 states.

During the local excursion, Child and Youth Services, part of Army Hawaii's Morale, Welfare and Recreation, provided morning activities. Kids participated in team and character-building exercises, such as the obstacle course and bean bag throws, at the Bennett Youth Center, said Amos Balongo, project coordinator.



"The paint feels good on my face," said Jack, 8, of Hickam Elementary School. He announced he would not wash the camouflage paint off his face until he got home and everyone in his family could see it. But, the overnight camp didn't end till July 13.

Afterwards, Tropics staff and Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS) members treated the campers to lunch and camouflage painting classes.

"I'm not full, yet," said 10-year-old Jeremy after eating his second jumbo hotdog. "I might get one more," he said, before finally admitting he was stuffed.

Elsewhere in the Tropics recreation center, Gabriel, 8, of Pearl Harbor Kai Elementary, and Devin, 8, of Mokapu Elementary, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, played several rounds of "Hot



Operation PURPLE

Hands."

"You see, I have to hit his hands before he moves them away," Gabriel explained.

Soon, control gave way to rambunctious chatter. Shelly Leslie, Tropics manager, had announced the camouflage painting class.

"Rudy Tootie. Sit on your booties," chimed the camp counselors.

Once the campers had quietened, Leslie pointed to a camouflaged Soldier and asked, "Look at his face. Why is it different? Would this look good if we were laying out at the beach?"

"No!" the youth echoed, stating the Soldier would not blend in with his surroundings.

Most of the youth, and several of the camp counselors, too, wanted their face painted.

Left — At center, leading the pack for Group 2 of Operation Purple at the Schofield Barracks Tropics recreation center, Gabriel, 8, of Pearl Harbor Kai Elementary School, strikes a neutral pose.



Brandon, 9, of Pearl Harbor Kai Elementary, patiently waits for a camp counselor to respond to his question.

Jack, 8, Hickam Elementary, said the paint felt good on his face. He announced he would wear it till everyone could see him at home.

"Do I look menacing?" Kelly Lambert, camp counselor, asked Pfc. Obadiah Lopez of A Company, 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, who ap-



For more details about the BOSS program visit
bosshawaii@murarmyhawaii.com
or call 655-8169.

plied her makeup.

Campers then gathered round her, to try to make her cry with laughter, and further smudge the gooey paint about her face.

The call for "To your feet. To your feet." came too soon. As an added bonus, Sgt. Danielle Colson president of BOSS, had arranged for the youth to enjoy some virtual fun at the 1st Lt. Nainoa K. Hoe Battle Command Training Center.

Facility manager Ray Porter, with General Dynamics Information Technology, split the large groups into two; one saw the Virtual Combat Convoy Trainer, the other the DARWARS interactive simulations suite. Both groups learned that virtual systems help Soldiers, airmen, sailors and Marines protect themselves in a combat environment.

Curious 9-year-old Brandon, Pearl Harbor Kai Elementary, overloaded Dave Robinson of the Ray-

SEE OPERATION PURPLE, B-5



BOSS brings enthusiasts together at auto show

Story and Photos by
MOLLY HAYDEN
Staff Writer

The continuous drizzle of rain throughout the day did not stop hundreds of spectators from perusing more than 40 cars on display here for the first annual Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS) auto show, Saturday.

Owners of the displayed cars entered eight categories for a chance to win a trophy, gift certificates ranging from \$200-\$600 from one of the many sponsors, and the pride of knowing the care and restoration (or lack thereof) they have given to their automobiles had not gone unnoticed. The

categories included: modified, unmodified, trucks, SUV's, 4x4s, motorcycles and hoopties.

"These vehicles represent each person's personality and work," said Petty Officer Terrance Ritter, Naval Telecommunications Transportation Management System. "There are so many extra miles you can go with a car to make it unique."

The BOSS organization is a Morale, Welfare, and Recreation program for single Soldiers. The BOSS Council organizes and conducts activities such as trips to the beach, outer islands and off-post entertainment venues, and gatherings in the BOSS lounge.

The program is designed to bring single Soldiers

together and to promote community involvement. BOSS hosts various gatherings throughout the year, like the most recent event, which raised money for Jerry's kids (what was it called?).

The car show brought many single Soldiers, as well as families and civilians, to the Tropics parking lot to gaze at the classic and modified vehicles, browse through various auto vendors, and beat the heat with some shave ice. The inflatable castle entertained children and the face-painting booth allowed them to express the love of their favorite car as words like Jeep were painted across little faces.

Sgt. Chris Cilento, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, participated in the event by entering

his Jeep in the 4x4 category.

"Anything with four wheels and this kid goes crazy," said Cilento, pointing to his son, Joey.

"And two wheels," Joey piped in, holding up a model of a motorcycle.

The competition was open to all military personnel and civilians.

"The competition is stiff," said Cilento. "There are a lot of great vehicles here."

The event was the brainchild of car enthusiast and BOSS representative Spc. Jason Murphy, U.S. Army Pacific, 8th Theater Sustainment Command.

Far left — Owners display their Jeeps at the auto show. Left — Petty Officer Terrance Ritter's modified 2005 Scion took home the "Best in Show" trophy. Ritter has been modifying the car for the past year.

SEE AUTO SHOW, B-3



20 / Today

Back 2 School Dance — The Aliamanu Military Reservation (AMR) Teen Center is sponsoring a dance to kick off back to school from 7-11:30 p.m. Call 833-0902.

21 / Saturday

Craft Sale & Open House — The Fort Shafter Arts & Crafts Center is having a Craft Sale and Open House from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Sale items include handcrafted pottery, stained glass, ceramics, woodcrafts, mirrors, baskets and more.

Enjoy free refreshments, balloons, body art tattoos, craft demos and "Make & Takes" fun for the whole family. The Fort Shafter Arts & Crafts Center is located in Building 339 near the Aloha Center. Call 438-1315.

Blue Star Card Holders — Become a cardholder and record a video message for your Soldier at the Army Community Service (ACS) Outreach-Aloha Center, Fort Shafter. Call 656-0135 or 438-2911.

28 / Saturday

Cooking with Titus Chan — Tour Chinatown, dine on a gourmet lunch, then enjoy a show with famous Master Chef Titus Chan, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Chan, well-known for his cooking shows on PBS and Warner Brothers, will share top-of-the-line Chinese cooking techniques.

Also, patrons can enjoy the two-hour walking tour of Chinatown, the one-hour cooking show, take-home recipes, and the one-hour lunch at an upscale Chinese Restaurant.

Cost is \$63 for all activities, including tour, lunch and transportation. Call the Leisure Activities Office to register at 655-0112.

Ongoing

Little Ninja Classes — Parents or guardians, bring your 3-5-year-olds to Child and Youth Services (CYS) so they can learn basic Tae Kwon Do skills. At these classes, children will improve their motor and communication skills, learn to focus, and build confidence and socialization skills.

Children must be enrolled in Schools of Knowledge, Inspiration, Exploration and Skills (SKIES) or be a current member of CYS. Register at the CYS Office, 556 Heard St. For more information, call SKIES at 655-9818.



Photos Courtesy of Mary Garcia

Mitchell Garcia competes in the pitch portion of the Major League Baseball Pitch, Hit & Run Competition, above, at San Diego's Petco Park, June 23. At right, he basks on the upper deck of the stadium.



Ten-year-old hits his way to MLB

MOLLY HAYDEN
Staff Writer

KAPOLEI — Just a month ago, 10-year-old Mitchell Garcia awoke at 6 a.m. He wanted to get in a last-minute practice.

Two hours later, Garcia was competing in the 2007 Pepsi Major League Baseball (MLB) Pitch, Hit, & Run Competition in San Diego, Calif., June 23.

The young athlete recalled the event, smiling, and said, "Practice makes perfect. I always practice."

Garcia was chosen to represent Hawaii in his age group at the competition, held at PETCO Park, home of the San Diego Padres. Garcia's mother, Mary, works as an accountant at the Installation Management Command, Pacific.

Mitchell had advanced through the local contest conducted by Army Hawaii Child Youth Sports (CYS), Sports & Fitness and the sectional competition conducted by Haiku Boys & Girls Club on Maui. The event was open to boys and

girls ages 7-14. This year's program had more than 600,000 participants in more than 3,900 local competitions, according to the MLB Web site.

The contest challenged youth in pitching and running. They pitched to a target, to demonstrate distance and accuracy skills, then hit off a stationary tee straight toward centerfield. Afterwards, they ran from second base to home plate, to showcase their running speed.

Garcia has had a fascination with playing baseball since the age of 6. He believes he gets his skills from his father, Keith, who taught him how to throw, pitch and hit.

"He taught me everything I know," said Mitchell. "Everything but speed. You can't teach speed."

The youngster explained his speed comes from God, as well as his determination to do his best. He uses this determination in his schoolwork, too.

SEE GARCIA, B-4

Gymboree — SKIESUnlimited, in partnership with Army Hawaii Family Housing, is offering Gymboree to children 6 months-5 years old. These classes will help children build strong motor skills, social skills and self-esteem — all the ingredients they need to grow into confident, happy, successful people.

Classes are held the first four Wednesdays of each month. Call CYS at 655-9818.

Auto Detailing — The Schofield Barracks Auto Skills Center is offering a new auto detailing service for a limited time. To make an appointment or to find out more information, call 655-9368.

Hawaiian Luau Lunch Buffet — Enjoy the "ono" taste of a traditional Hawaiian-style feast, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Hale Ikena, Fort Shafter, or 11 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Schofield Barracks Nehelani. Cost is \$9.95

per person. Call the Hale Ikena (438-1974) or the Nehelani (655-4466) for lunch buffet reservations or more information.

New MWR Calendar Feature — Visit the Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) Web site, www.mwrarmyhawaii.com, and check out the new calendar feature, which allows users to view the calendar by day, week or month, in a list or tabular format.

Other features allow users to search for events, receive event reminders or notifications of event changes by e-mail or text message, as well as download event info, e-mail event information to friends, and import events to a calendar.

SKIES Driver Education — Learn to drive with SKIES at Valentine's Driving School, Schofield Barracks. The session is taught by qualified instructors and includes

32 hours of classroom instruction and six hours of behind-the-wheel instruction.

The fee is \$295 and must be paid at the time of registration. Call 655-9818.

"Paint It & Take It" — Ceramic parties offer a unique way to celebrate get-togethers, coffees, children's birthday parties, showers or any occasion. Your arts and crafts center provides a varied selection of ceramic bisqueware to paint and take home.

Call 655-6330 at Schofield Barracks or 438-1315 at Fort Shafter.

Salvage Yard Auto Sales — Fort Shafter and Schofield Barracks salvage yards will be sponsoring sealed bid auto sales twice a month. Bidding will end on the first and third Saturdays of each month, and the highest bidder will be notified the following day.

July 22 at Kapiolani Park Bandstand from 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m.

Jake Shimabukuro and Manoa DNA will make special appearances. Other performers include ukulele master Ohta San, Nando Suan, and some very special surprise guests.

24 / Tuesday

PWOC Summer Program — The Protestant Women of the Chapel are hosting a summer program every Tuesday morning in July (24 & 31) at the Schofield Barracks Main Post Chapel, Room 212, from 9-11:30 a.m. In addition, the PWOC offers a school-aged children's program and child care for Child Development Center (CDC)-registered children under 4 years old. Call 206-8504.

25 / Wednesday

Employment Orientation — Looking for a job in Hawaii? Attend an Army Community Service employment orientation and get employment information on federal, state, private sector and staffing agencies. Reference materials, job listings, computers and more will be available for use. The next workshop is July 25, 10-11:30 a.m., at AMR Chapel. Call ACS Schofield at 655-4227 or Fort Shafter, 438-9285. Register online at www.mwrarmyhawaii.com. For child care at AMR, call 833-5393.

Schofield PX Grand Opening — Mark your calendar now for the Schofield Main Exchange official grand opening celebration, July 25-28. Enter for a chance to win door prizes and giveaways each day, plus enjoy numerous promotions and discounts. Hours of operation are 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; however, July 25, the dedication and blessing ceremony will begin promptly at 8:30 a.m. Call 622-1773 for more details.

27 / Friday

Army Community Service — ACS will throw its big 42nd birthday celebration, July 27, and you can join in on the fun from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at either the Fort Shafter or Schofield Barracks location.

Games, activities and free refreshments — plus a chance to win a new bike and other exciting prizes — will be on hand for the

entire family. Call ACS Schofield (655-4227) or Fort Shafter (438-9285) for more details.

August

4 / Saturday

Sunshine Generation Hawaii — Register your child for the next class of singing, dancing, showmanship and confidence offered by Sunshine Generation Hawaii, Aug. 4. Bonus workshops are also available for hula, acting, music theory and more.

Two locations provide activities:

- Catlin Community Center at 3144 Nimitz Rd., Tuesdays from 6-7 p.m. or Saturdays from 9-10 a.m.

- Mililani Waena Elementary School Cafeteria at 95-502 Kipapa Dr., Mondays from 6-7 p.m. or Saturdays from 11 a.m.-noon. Sunshine Generation is open to all boys and girls, ages 3-16. The program costs \$35 per month. Call 489-1998 or visit www.SunshineHawaii.net for more details.

7 / Tuesday

National Night Out — Army Hawaii Family Housing (AHFH) residents are invited to celebrate National Night Out at the Schofield Barracks Kalakaua Community Center from 3:30-7:30 p.m. Activities, exhibits and presentations for kids and adults will focus on safety in AHFH communities.

Admission is free. Call 275-3178/3179 or log onto www.ArmyHawaiiFamilyHousing.com and click the Community Calendar for more details.

McAnany at 655-4227.

Commissary Nursery — The Schofield Barracks Commissary has a new nursery room for nursing mothers and parents with small children to use while they shop for groceries. The nursery is located behind Register 1. Call Susan Sturgeon-Campbell at 655-6886 for more information.

Food For Families — The Armed Services YMCA accepts donations of nonperishable items to replenish its food pantry. Its emergency food locker is available to families experiencing financial difficulty that could use extra assistance. Supplies of canned goods, frozen food, dry goods and personal care items are accepted and usually available. Call 624-5645.

Volunteer Opportunities — Give back to the community by volunteering; it is a great way to meet new people, receive valuable job experience, and support the Army Hawaii family.

Opportunities are available on and off post. Free child care at an hourly rate is provided for up to 20 hours per week for those who volunteer with ACS. Visit www.mwrarmyhawaii.com or call 655-4227.

Torch Lighting and Hula Show — Enjoy free nightly performances (weather permitting), 6:30-7:30 p.m. at the Kuhio Beach Hula Mound, near the Duke Kahanamoku statue in Waikiki.

This show features a torch lighting and conch shell ceremony, authentic local music and dancing by some of the island's finest halau (hula troupes). Call 843-8002.

Oklahoma Degrees — The University of Oklahoma (OU) is accepting applications and registration for its summer term. OU is proud to offer a Master of Arts in Managerial Economics on Hickam Air Force Base. Its non-thesis program can be completed in about 18 months.

Contact OU at 449-6364, at apickam@ou.edu, or visit www.gouou.edu.



Aliamanu (AMR) Chapel, 836-4599

- Catholic Sunday, 8:30 a.m. — Mass Sunday, 9:45 a.m. — Religious Education (Sept.-May only)
- Gospel Sunday, 11 a.m. — Sunday School (Sept.-June only) Sunday, 12:30 p.m. — Worship service
- Protestant Sundays, 9:45 a.m. — Worship Service Sunday, 11 a.m. — Sunday School (Sept. — June only)

Fort DeRussy Chapel, 836-4599

- Catholic Saturday, 5 p.m. — Mass in Chapel (May-Aug.) Saturday, 6 p.m. — Mass on Beach
- Protestant Sunday, 9 a.m. — Worship Service

Fort Shafter Chapel, 836-4599

- Contemporary Protestant Sunday, 9 a.m. — "The Wave" Worship

Helemano (HMR) Chapel

- Contemporary Protestant Sunday, 10 a.m. — Worship Service & Children's Church

***Main Post Chapel, 655-9307**

- * (Note: During renovation, services normally held in the sanctuary will take place at the Wheeler Chapel.)
- Catholic Sunday, 9 a.m. — CCD & RCIA Collective Protestant Sunday, 10:30 a.m. — Sunday School
- Gospel Sunday, 10:30 a.m. — Sunday School

MPC Annex, Building 791

- Chalice Circle Tuesday, 7 p.m.
- Islamic Prayers and Study Friday, 1 p.m.
- Buddhist 4th Sunday, 1 p.m.

Soldiers Chapel

- Catholic Friday-Saturday, 12 p.m. — Adoration (24 hours)
- Protestant Sunday, 9:30 a.m. — Worship Service

Tripler AMC Chapel, 433-5727

- Catholic Sunday, 11 a.m. — Mass Monday — Friday, 12 p.m. — Mass Saturday, 5 p.m. — Mass
- Protestant Sunday, 9 a.m. — Worship Service

Wheeler Chapel

- Catholic Saturday, 5 p.m. — Mass Sunday, 10:30 a.m. — Mass
- Collective Protestant Sunday, 9 a.m. — Worship Service
- Gospel Sunday, 12 p.m. — Worship Service



Send calendar announcements to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com.

20 / Today

State Farm Fair — The Hawaii State Farm Fair runs July 19-22 and 27-29 at the Kapolei fairgrounds at the corner of Fort Barrette Road and Farrington Highway. From 6 p.m.-closing, fair-goers can enjoy a country market, orchid and plant sales, agricultural exhibits and demonstrations, a petting zoo and children's fair, live entertainment, E.K. Fernandez rides and games, and more.

Admission is \$3, noon-6 p.m.; \$5, 6 p.m.-midnight; children under 40 inches are free. Hours are 6 p.m.-midnight, Thursday & Fridays, noon-midnight, Saturdays and Sundays. Visit www.hfbf.org for more details.

21 / Saturday

Haleiwa Arts Festival — This weekend, stroll the 10th annual Summer ArtFest at the Haleiwa Arts Festival in historic Haleiwa Town on the North Shore. More than 140 artists, musicians, singers and dancers will be featured, as well as cultural trolley tours, storytellers, student art demonstrations and activities, and plentiful ono food. The festival runs Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., and Sunday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission and parking are free. For more details, surf www.HaleiwaArtsFestival.org.

22 / Sunday

CPR/First Aid — The American Red Cross is offering a CPR/First Aid class, July 22, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. This course will certify participants in adult, child and infant CPR, as well as standard first aid. To register, call the Schofield Barracks Service Center at 655-4927.

Ukulele Festival — World-renowned ukulele player and teacher, Roy Sakuma, brings his annual Ukulele Festival to Honolulu. This year's free festival will be held



Surf's Up

(PG)
Friday, 7 p.m.
Saturday, 2 p.m.
Wednesday, 4 p.m.



Waitress

(PG-13)
Saturday, 7 p.m.
Wednesday, 7 p.m.



Shrek the Third

(PG)
Sunday, 2 p.m.



Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End

(PG-13)
Wednesday, 7 p.m.

No shows on Mondays or Tuesdays.

Ongoing

Car-buying Classes — Learn how to get the most vehicle for your money. Car buying classes are held on the third Wednesday of every month at the Schofield Barracks Army Community Service, Building 2091, from 9-10:30 a.m. Contact Georgianna



Classic and new cars alike fill the parking lot of the Tropics recreation center, Saturday.



Winners of each category hold their trophies proudly at the first annual BOSS Auto Show. More than 40 vehicles representing eight categories were showcased.

Auto Show: Single Soldiers take opportunity to mingle at car show

CONTINUED FROM B-1

“BOSS is always looking for new ways to bring single Soldiers together,” said Murphy. “This event gives car enthusiasts a chance and a place to meet and talk shop.”

Hawaii BOSS Coordinator, Sgt. Danielle Colson, U.S. Army Garrison, Oahu, feels this event will give deploying Soldiers the opportunity to show off their cars before leaving.

“These cars mean a lot to them,” said Colson. “This gives them one last chance to show them off and express themselves.”

Colson explained the goal of BOSS was to create a community for single Soldiers.

“We want them to get out of the barracks,” she said. “This gives everyone a chance to meet other single Soldiers from different units and bases across the island.”

A panel of judges, along with spectators at the event, voted to determine the winners. One participant from each category received a trophy, and one overall winner was named. Ritter brought home “Best in Show” honors with his modified 2005 Scion.

The Tropics, 4 Wheel Parts, Maui Off-Road Center, Tony Auto Plex Group, Geico, Hooters, Coors, South Seas Motorcycle Company, Extreme Dirt Bike, Loco Moto X and Extreme Rims sponsored the event.



Send community announcements to community@hawaiiarmyweekly.com

21 / Saturday

Fall Youth Soccer — The American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO), Region 188 Hickam AFB/Pearl Harbor, will be accepting registration applications in front of the Hickam BX-tra from 10 a.m.–2 p.m., July 21 & Aug. 4. Players 4–18 (born between Aug. 1, 2002–July 31, 1988) need to show proof of age.

The season will run from August–November. The early-bird registration fee is \$55 per player. Preregistration is also available

online at www.eayso.org (specify Region 188). E-mail questions to reg@aysoregion188.org.

22 / Sunday

Hike Oahu — Come join the Hawaiian Trail & Mountain Club on its next hiking adventure, beginning at 8 a.m.

–Sunday, 7-miler, Koloa Gulch, intermediate. Call coordinator Peter Kempf, 384-2221.

–July 28, 6-miler, Likeke, intermediate. Coordinator is Stuart Ball, 247-5380.

A \$2 donation is requested of nonmembers 18 and older. Children under 18 must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Hikers meet at the Iolani Palace, unless otherwise noted. Bring lunch and water on all hikes; wear sturdy shoes and clothing as extra caution may be required on some trails.

Hikers must keep all trails and lunch sites clear of clutter, and

treat trees and plants with care and respect. Firearms, pets, radios and other audio devices are prohibited on all hikes. Visit <http://htmclub.org> for more details.

28 / Saturday

Keiki Rodeo — The Hawaii Women's Rodeo Association (HWRA) will host a Jackpot Rodeo, July 28, at the DK Ranch Arena in Waimanalo. Rodeo action begins at 10 a.m. with open, 3D and keiki barrel racing followed by pole-bending. Admission and parking are free.

Mitchell Garcia winds up for a pitch during one of his regular season baseball games. Garcia competed in the MLB's Pitch, Hit & Run competition.



Garcia: Little leaguer hits it big

CONTINUED FROM B-2

The soon-to-be sixth grader is an honor roll student at St. Joseph's Elementary School in Waipahu. He has won the Outstanding Student award four years in a row.

For Garcia, the trip to San Diego was another chance to polish his baseball skills and compete against children his age from around the United States.

In the final tally, he placed as All-Around Champion in his age division. Then his scores were ranked nationally against 30 other MLB players in his age group. The top four scores advanced to the National Finals at the 2007 MLB All-Star Game.

Though Garcia did not advance to the final leg, he said, "I learned a lot from watching the way other people did things. I hope to be back next year."

All qualifying finalists were not only treated to tick-

ets to the Padres vs. White Sox game, June 24, but also recognized by the commentator during the game. When he heard his name across the loud speaker, Garcia recalled, he stood up and gave the shaka sign, in honor of his home state of Hawaii, to the sold-out crowd.

Now back in Kapolei, Garcia thinks about his future. He said he aspires to take his talents all the way. He wants to become a professional baseball player.

But, Garcia also believes in being prepared. He has a plan B in the works.

"If [baseball] doesn't work out, I'll become a sports commentator," he said. "I've already been practicing and giving interviews."

Judging by Garcia's talents thus far, his practice may make him perfect for either career.



20 / Today

Army Mini Sports Flag Football — Youth Sports and Fitness at Child and Youth Services presents an opportunity for children born between 2002–2003 to gain basic skills and understanding of flag football.

Cost is \$10 and includes a child T-shirt. Parents are encouraged to participate.

Register today through July 18; the program runs from July 25–Sept. 14.

Call the Bennett Youth Center Field at Schofield Barracks at 655-0883, or Aliamanu Military Reservation (AMR) football field, 836-1923.

Flag Football & Cheerleading Registration

— Youth Sports Flag Football & Cheerleading registration runs now through July 31. It's open to youth born between 1993–2002.

Cost is \$50 per person for flag football, \$60 per for

cheerleading.

Practices begin Sept. 24, and the season will run Oct. 20–Dec. 15. Call 655-5314 or 833-5393 for more information.

14 / Saturday

Hawaii Championship Wrestling — Wrestling returns to the Tropics at Schofield Barracks from 7–10 p.m. Doors will open at 6 p.m. Cost is \$5 for ages 12 and over, \$3 for 11 and under, and free for 5 and under. Call 655-5697.

Ongoing

Teen Fit — Certified personal trainer Kristy Osborn teaches Teen Fit classes once a week for teens 12–17 years old. These small group classes teach the basics of proper strength training, cardio and stretching in a fun setting. Cost is \$35 per teen. Contact Osborn at 381-5944, or sign up at the Health and Fitness Center.

Well-Being T-Shirts — Earn a Lifetime Sports & Recreation (LS&R) "Targeting Your Well-Being" T-shirt and hat, when you earn LS&R points by participating in award-winning activities and special events. Pick up an LS&R brochure at any Community Recreation Division (CRD) facility and start earning 1–5 points per activity.

Your first 20 points earns you a limited edition long-sleeve or standard T-shirt, and your second 20 points an LS&R cap.

Completed cards can be turned in at the Schofield Barracks or Fort Shafter Health & Fitness Centers. Call 655-0110. Quantities are limited.

Brazilian Capoeira — Develop the mind, body and spirit to include physical fitness, self-defense and self-discipline through Brazilian Capoeira. Classes are held Tuesdays from 5:30–7 p.m. at the Fort Shafter Physical Fitness Center. Call Mestre Kinaha at 247-7890.

Leilehua Golf Course Driving Range — The golf driving range at the Leilehua Golf Course is open weekdays until 9:30 p.m. Call 655-4653.

Water Aerobics — Come join this exciting workout at Richardson Pool. Classes are held Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m., and Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5 p.m.–6 p.m.

Classes are \$2 each, or a punch card is available for \$15.

Water aerobics provides a safe and effective exercise alternative that improves fitness levels with little stress on the joints. Call 655-1128.



Gabriel, 8, a Pearl Harbor Kai Elementary School student, attempts to avoid enemy fire during a virtual simulation at the Battle Command Training Center, Schofield Barracks.



Shelly Leslie, Tropics manager, waits for campers to assemble for the camouflage painting class.



Cpl. Anthony Ambriz of A Company, 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, applies camouflage paint on Jacob, 12, of Moanalua Middle School. Ambriz participates in BOSS (Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers) activities.

Operation Purple: Mission a success

CONTINUED FROM B-1

don Corp., with question after question.

In turn, Robinson quizzed the children: "How many of your parents have been to Iraq?" Most kids raised their hands.

"How many are there right now?" he asked. He got the same response.

Robinson continued asking questions: What's an IED? A roadside bomb, a camper answered.

What's a humvee? It kinda' looks like a jeep, another said.

What are virtual reality goggles? It's sort of like make believe, another camper piped in.

At the DARWARS suite, simulation teams showed off the system used to train platoon-sized



In the blood. Nine-year-old Jacob, an Army family member who attends Holomua Elementary School, Ewa Beach, begs the question, "Don't I look like a Soldier?"



Colson

General Dynamics, explained, "These interactive simulations replicate just every type of weapon system, vehicle and ammunition

in the Army's inventory. Leaders give us their training objective, and then we build a scenario for Soldiers based upon it."

Then, again, all too soon for Operation Purple youth, the mission ended — to them, seemingly abruptly.

Time had expired. The mission had been executed.

By the looks on their eager faces, the mission was a success.

elements and below.

To adults observing the chil-

dren, Manny Sharpe, simulation team, Information Technology,