

# HAWAII ARMY WEEKLY

Vol. 33 No. 44

Serving the U.S. Army community in Hawaii

November 5, 2004

## What's Inside



### Positive Influence

Injured Soldier maintains positive attitude.

A-6

### Macomb Gate Closure

The Schofield Barracks gate will be closed Tuesday and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. for installation of Christmas decorations along Macomb Road. Gate closure is necessary for pedestrian and driver safety. Traffic should enter through Foote, Lyman or McNair gates during the closure. Contact Department of Public Works at 655-0585.



### Halloween Highlights

Read more about Halloween festivities around the island; across the world.

B-1

### Annual Anti-terrorism Exercise until Nov. 18

Exercises will be accomplished through a series of short notice, one day situational training exercises. The Anti-terrorism office and U.S. Army Garrison Hawaii are endeavoring to create an exercise with minimal impact on the community's activities while protecting families, installations and islands from acts of terrorism. Call Robert C. Marsh at 655-5212 for more information.



### Sand Skiing?

Read more about the Qatar R&R program and the activities Soldiers can participate in while there.

B-3

Briefs	A-4, B-2
Top Counselors	A-5
Crime Facts	A-6
Redeployment	B-3
Sports	B-4

## Wolfhounds pay respects to fallen combat medic

By Staff Sgt. Bradley Rhen  
CTF Thunder Public Affairs

**FORWARD OPERATING BASE ORGUN-E, Afghanistan** – When Spc. Visala Tui was called from the back of a convoy Oct. 20 to help with casualties from an explosion, he expected the medic at the front of the convoy to already have the situation under control.

When he got there he found out his best friend and fellow medic Cpl. Billy Gomez was one of the Soldiers he was called to help.

"It was very tough for me when I came up to the site and it was him, my dear brother Gomez," Tui said. "But I had to put my feelings to the side because I had



Cpl. Billy Gomez

three casualties."

The two medics, both members of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, were attached to an anti-tank platoon for a mission that day. The explo-

sion occurred near Naka, Afghanistan, a historically-known Taliban stronghold in Northern Paktika province.

Gomez was eventually flown to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center in Germany where he died from his injuries Oct. 27. Two other Soldiers from 2-27 Inf. were also wounded in the attack and are now at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C.

Tui and the rest of the Wolfhounds paid their final respects to Gomez at a memorial service Oct. 30 in Southeastern Afghanistan.

Originally from Perris, Calif., Gomez was the youngest of three triplets. Both of his brothers are also in the Army. Mark is a mem-

ber of 2nd Bn., 35th Inf. Rgt. at Kandahar Air Field, Afghanistan, and Joey is assigned to Fort Sill, Okla.

Speaking at the service, Tui said he met Gomez in October 2001, and since then, the two had become best friends. Tui recalled how Gomez taught him how to pack his A-bag, and the time Gomez showed him what a square knot was.

"When I was too sick to get dinner, he would always pick me up some tacos from Jack In The Box, even though I don't like Jack In The Box," Tui said. "Remember all those 50 cent tacos, Billy?"

Speaking to his friend who was no longer there, Tui asked Gomez if he remem-

See "Gomez" Page A-10

## Smiles from Iraqi children plentiful in 2nd BCT's Operation Crayon

Sgt. Sean Kimmons  
25th ID (L) Public Affairs

**KIRKUK, Iraq** – As if a famous rock star performed in front of a live audience, Iraqi children shouted and waved to 2nd Brigade Combat Team Soldiers and Iraqi Police who visited the Halima Al-Sadeea Elementary School to hand out school supply packages intended for Operation Crayon on Oct. 21.

Operation Crayon has been an ongoing mission for the 2nd BCT and the excitement displayed by the school children on this day was normal treatment that Soldiers get when they are around Iraqi children in this city.

"They're just like any other kid, they are shy but will open up and are very receptive," Chief Warrant Officer Randall Reynolds, 2nd BCT Operation Crayon coordinator, said about the Iraqi children.

It's also fun for the Soldiers to play with the kids especially if they are a parent and have not seen their own kid in months, Reynolds went on to say.



Iraqi students eagerly open new book bags donated to them during the Operation Crayon mission at the Halima Al-Sadeea Elementary School in Kirkuk on Oct. 21.

The main reason for the world-wide Operation Crayon mission is to seek school supplies so that American troops can distribute them to needy children in the countries where

they are deployed. It offers an approach for posts, units, and especially family members to support their troops as they promote goodwill in war torn countries.

2nd BCT's Operation Crayon mission is meant to do all of the above, but has incorporated the assistance from the Iraqi Security

See "Crayon" Page A-10

## Students learn to participate in elections

By Spc. Charles Hayes  
Staff Writer

Students of all grades and ages from Hale Kula elementary school, and across Hawaii, participated in a nationwide mock presidential election on Oct. 28.

Tuesday night, the Hawaii vote was in and 52 percent of the more than 82,000 young voters mirrored the adult elections by re-electing President George W. Bush over Sen. John Kerry.

Nationwide, 53 percent of more than 700,000 students voted for Bush over Kerry who pulled 44 percent of the votes.

"It is important that people vote because it is important who is president," said 9-year-old Dakota Terrell, a 4th grader at the Hale Kula elementary school.

This year, Hawaii students went online to cast their votes for all elections in the country's only statewide Kids Voting U.S.A. election.

"All of the children came in knowing who they wanted to vote for. One of their assignments was to discuss it with their parents," said Laura Nakasone, a curriculum coordinator at Hale Kula Elementary School.

"I am glad to be able to vote because some people don't get this chance," said Terrell.

All youth across the United States, from kindergarten through grade 12, in public, pri-



Jalissa Cosme, 9, votes with fellow students Oct. 28 at Hale Kula Elementary School on Schofield Barracks during the Kids Vote Hawaii mock presidential elections.

private and home schools could participate in the 2004 Kids Voting U.S.A. election. Students' families were invited to log on with their kids,

to explore the candidates and the issues.

Kids Voting U.S.A. is a national nonprofit, nonpartisan organization that teaches students about the concepts of citizenship, civic responsibility, democracy and the importance of political participation.

Its mission is to educate youth to become responsible voters and to promote adult voter participation.

A partner of Kids Voting USA, Kids Voting Hawaii began in 1996. In the first three general elections, more than 125,000 students voted on paper ballots for the major candidates at polling sites where their parents were voting.

In the 2002 general election, Hawaii students were the first in the United States to vote statewide by computer.

Students were able to practice their voting from Sept. 27 through Oct. 17.

"Teachers were running activities and teaching the students the importance of voting. They tried to discuss some of the issues and let the kids know that voting is a privilege," said Nakasone.

Online e-voting was available from Oct. 18 through Nov. 2, the day of the U.S. presidential elections.

Students voted in their classrooms, computer labs, libraries, at home on personal home-

See "Kids" Page A-10

## Work to begin on Schofield's new PX

By Joy Boisselle  
Staff Writer

The future looks bright for U. S. Army Hawaii shoppers. Officials from the Army and Air Force Exchange Service, Bodell Construction, and USARHAW leaders broke ground for the new Schofield Barracks Post Exchange scheduled to open in late 2006.

According to Ken Miyazono, Sales and Merchandising Manager at the exchange, "The new store will be almost 177,000 square feet compared to the 47,000 square feet we have now."

Miyazono said, "The biggest impact of the new store will be one-stop shopping for our customers and we will have a larger assortment and variety of merchandise available."

Customers should see construction on the nearly \$32 million project begin within the next few weeks. Phase one of the three phase operation will begin with the demolition of several buildings around the current store and the erection of a large fence which will take up most of the parking areas in front of the PXtra and the food court.

Also during this phase, the new building for the PX will be built and connected with the existing PXtra. Phase two will focus on the move out of the old facility and into the new. Phase three is the shortest phase and focuses on the transition to full operation status for the new exchange.

"The biggest challenge to customers during the construction phase is parking," Miyazono said. Over half of the current parking lot will be under construction at least for the next eight to 12 months. Parking at the PXtra will be especially challenging, but a new parking area on the old Popeye's site will be built to accommodate PXtra shoppers.

"This store has been a long time coming," Miyazono said. "And, the construction project goes hand-in-hand with all the other renovations that are ongoing around post." When

See "PX" Page A-10

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 Friday prior to the week of publication. Send all articles in Microsoft Word or text format.

# OPINION & COMMENTARY

## Warning: Kleenex required!

# The best kept little secret in Cook, Minn.

### Commentary

By Linda Lappi  
Proud Mom

Our son, Spc. Erick Lappi was deployed on Jan. 18, 2004. He is serving with the U.S. Army 25th Infantry Division (Light) in Northern Iraq.

It has been a long six months for this family and friends. Tears come often for me. I have learned to carry Kleenex wherever I go. Wearing a yellow ribbon and his Army pin, make me fair game for questions as I work and go about my daily routine. And being born and raised in Cook, Erick is known by many residents. So naturally people want to know how he is doing.

Don't misunderstand, I love talking about him, passing on any news we've heard in recent days. If I wore button down shirts, the buttons would pop from love and pride. But when asked, I often tear up, pull the Kleenex out and blow my nose! I now have been diagnosed with "Kleenex Elbow" - no known cure!

As spring came and went, we lost hope of seeing Erick come home for

R&R. I had resolved myself to just waiting his deployment out, seeing his face, touching him, hugs, when his tour was over - whenever that is! We didn't ask anymore if he would be able to come home on leave. I didn't want to hear the answer.

A plot is forming - Several family members, friends and my best friend were involved. My best friend - who knew she could keep a secret? Erick's brother Jason and his wife Becky were to be called on a moments notice where and when to pick him up.

The stage is set - It's 8 p.m. on Saturday, July 3. We have returned from a picnic at the lake with friends and co-workers. My brother-in-law has left his lap top computer with us to use for the summer. It's been a long day, but I decide to send off an e-mail to Erick and check messages before going to bed.

The dog starts barking (not unusual-if you know our dog) and Jason comes in. Howard, my husband and Erick's dad, left the room to see who is here.

"It's not company, just Jason and Becky," he said. Sorry guys - family isn't the same as company! I'm still on the computer, Erick's e-mail is sent (I'm blowing my nose here!) Jason walks into the living room

and takes hold of my arm, "Mom, come here, I've got a surprise for you!"

So, are they having twins, got a new puppy? What? What? I've made it to the kitchen range. My daughter-in-law is standing in the darkened hallway. There is someone tall behind her. I can't see who, just the top of a floppy hat. Oh no, I'm not dressed for "real" company! Becky moves out of the shadows, into the kitchen. Time is frozen in this moment. A figure in fatigues walks slowly into the light. How much time passes, I'm not certain. My brain cannot register what my eyes are seeing.

I'm not aware of anything else around me. I cannot hear anything, trying to comprehend who is now standing only a few feet away. He is in fatigues, Army maybe; tall, skinny - he has not said a word. OH MY GOD! Erick is home! My feet fly with arms open wide. My baby is home! (He'll hate that part!) I'm sobbing at this point and can't seem to let him go.

But, I need to cup my hands around his face and look into his eyes. Is he all right? Is he well? I don't want to let him go, but Howard is standing behind me waiting for his turn. Erick is apologizing; he probably smells - hasn't

had a shower in two days! What smell? I don't smell anything! I cannot see or sense anything, other than Erick in front of me. He sits - I sit. I have to touch his hand, stare at the face I've missed so much. So many questions but for now it is enough just to savor the moment.

Erick was home for 14 days. He was able to fish with friends, enjoy the lake in his new fishing boat, visit with family, camp with his brother and sleep in his own room, in his own bed. The time was so valuable and came to an end so quickly.

There is silence in the car on that early morning drive to the airport. I find myself staring at him again. How did he become so beautiful? No longer a boy but a man. How was I so privileged to be "his" mom, so lucky that he blessed our family?

I would lay down my life for him in a heartbeat, I would carry some of the weight off his shoulders if I could. We are now sending him back to the unknown.

It has been three weeks since we said those tearful goodbye and gave final hugs, that I can still feel on my chest. Life goes on!

To Erick - thank you! If I live to be 100 (God willing and the river don't rise!) I will always remember



Sgt. Sean Kimmons

Spc. Erick Lappi

that feeling I had, seeing your face, when time stood still and my prayers were answered. God bless all our Soldiers - at home and abroad!

P.S. I warned you about the Kleenex!!!!!!!

(Editor's Note: Read part 2 of 4 in next week's Hawaii Army Weekly)

# Don't get me wrong, but voting isn't a right

### Commentary

By Elsie Jackson  
Army News Service

FORT BENNING, Ga. - Exercise your right to vote? Voting is a privilege? Wrong.

That's right. Wrong. Rights and privileges are benefits, advantages ... favors. It's true. I looked the words up

in the dictionary.

And while being able to cast a vote for the candidates of your choice to represent you is certainly more advantageous than living in a country presided over by a despot-of-the-month, voting isn't just a "perk" because we're Americans.

Voting is every citizen's responsibility. Responsible, as in accountable, answerable, liable. An obligation. Something you do because it's the right thing to do.

If voting were a right, it would be available if and when we wanted, or needed, to take advantage of it. We all have the right to worship freely, but does everyone you know show

up at church every Sunday?

If voting were just a privilege, only "special" people would be allowed to do it. And that wouldn't be right. Besides, privileges can be earned or given and just as easily taken away. Ask my daughter.

Nope. Voting is more than something we do every few years because we are lucky enough to live in a free country and we can.

Casting an educated vote is every responsible adult American's responsibility.

And for some of us more, um, shall we say "experienced" citizens, here's some extra motivation. Young people are registering to vote in

droves thanks to programs like MTV's "Get Out the Vote" campaign.

You really want your tax dollars spent by candidates elected by kids who are voting thanks to MTV? I didn't think so.

So get out there and vote.

It's not a right; it's the right thing to do.

It's not a privilege, because it's more than a "perk" for being American.

It's a responsibility. And it's yours. Mine. Ours.

(Editor's note: Elsie Jackson works for the Infantry Center Public Affairs, Office, Fort Benning, Ga.)

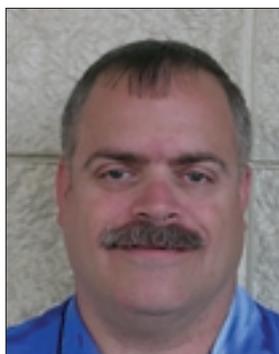
## Voices of Lightning

### What does Veteran's Day mean to you?



Veteran's Day is a day for recognition of sacrifice. Soldiers cherish freedom and are willing to sacrifice, whether it's time or separation from loved ones, or even the ultimate sacrifice of laying down their lives. I served with the 25th ID in Vietnam and I still remember the people we lost there.

Chief Warrant Officer (Ret.), Frank Fedore  
Vietnam Veteran



Veteran's Day means sacrifice. We are trying to remember those who sacrificed before and those who are sacrificing now.

Capt. Jeff Reichardt,  
Tripler Army Medical Center



I am a Soldier and looking at all the sacrifices of Soldiers made before me makes me even more proud to be in the service and wear the uniform. I have seen other countries and know the changes there are mostly because of the sacrifices of Soldiers before me.

Spc. Thomas Brecheisen,  
Co. B, 205th Military Intelligence Battalion



It is a chance for us to honor Soldiers who have sacrificed their lives for their country as well as to honor those who are serving their country now.

Tracy Vawter,  
Family Member



Veteran's Day means honoring all those veterans who have served and sacrificed. Many gave their lives for us to have the privileges and rights we have today.

Staff Sgt. Marqua McLeod,  
HHC, 45th CSG



To me, it means honoring all our veterans, past and present, who had the courage to serve their country and honor those that continue to serve today.

Maj. Pamela Ting,  
25th Military Police Battalion

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  
Editor  
Sharee Moore  
Assistant Editor  
Spc. Daniel Kelly  
Staff Writers  
Joy Boiselle  
Spc. Charles Hayes  
Layout  
Sueann Carter

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

# Tripler's high priority patients get flu shots

By Margaret Tippy

Tripler Army Medical Center Public Affairs

Tripler Army Medical Center is currently limiting flu vaccinations on a case-by-case basis to deploying troops and those people who are at very high risk for developing complications from influenza.

Military-eligible patients in "very high risk" categories may obtain an authorization form from their primary care or specialty care providers to receive the vaccine at Tripler's Allergy and Immunization Clinic.

The clinic's immunization hours are Tuesdays, 1 – 3 p.m., and Wednesdays and Fridays, 9 – 11:30 a.m. The clinic is located on Tripler's fourth floor.

"As more vaccine becomes available to Tripler, or the community influenza situation changes, more guidance will be provided," said Navy Capt. (Dr.) Kevin Berry, deputy commander for clinical services. "Tripler is making sure the vaccine gets to the patients with the most critical needs first."

Specialty care patients who are enrolled to Hickam Air Force Base, Pearl Harbor and Kaneohe Bay

Clinics Primary Care Providers are asked to get their vaccine from their PCPs.

Very high-risk categories include:

- Hematology-Oncology patients undergoing active therapy
- HIV/AIDS patients
- Dialysis patients
- Transplant patients
- Patients on immunosuppressive agents
- Steroid-dependent pulmonary disease patients
- Severe Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease patients
- Patients with congestive heart failure, coronary artery disease, and congenital heart disease.

It is extremely important that very high-risk patients have correct address and phone contact information in Defense Eligibility Enrollment Reporting System or, DEERS, so they may be contacted at their current residence.

The easiest way to update the DEERS information is to go to [www.tricare.osd.mil](http://www.tricare.osd.mil), and click on "DEERS" to the bottom right of the Web page. It will take you directly to the Address Change

Option in DEERS.

Enrollment forms to transfer TRICARE benefits are also located on the website above.

Enrollees may also call the Defense Manpower Data Center Support Office at 1-800-538-9552, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Eastern Time, Wednesdays through Fridays.

"Other locations in the community may have more vaccine doses available than Tripler, and patients are encouraged to use these sites while Tripler seeks additional sources of vaccine," said Col. (Dr.) Dale Vincent, chief of the Department of Medicine.

For information on flu vaccinations available in the community, call 211. Tripler's Immunization Clinic may be reached at 433-6334.

(Editor's Note: Tripler hopes to receive more vaccine and will be continually updating information as supplies change. Visit Tripler's Web site at [www.tamc.amedd.army.mil](http://www.tamc.amedd.army.mil).

More information on good health habits is available on the CDC's Web site at [www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov) and click on "Flu Updates." Tips listed are from same site.)

## Good health habits prevent getting the flu

Avoid close contact with people who are sick. When you are sick, keep your distance from others to protect them from getting sick too. If possible, stay home from work, school and errands when you are sick. You will help prevent others from catching your illness.

Cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. It may prevent those around you from getting sick.

Washing your hands often will help protect you from germs.

Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs are often spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose, or mouth.

The Center of Disease Control Web site ([www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)) also offers toll-free hotlines to the public in English 888-246-2675, Español 888-246-2857, TTY 866-874-2646.

# 'America's Army' top 5 online game

By Kelli R. Petermeyer  
Army News Service

WASHINGTON – After two years, the official U.S. Army game has registered more than 4 million users and is now one of the top five games in the world.

The creative minds behind "America's Army" said they take every opportunity to explore ways to improve the realism of the game to keep up with its growing popularity, including the Serious Games Summit held in the nation's capital Oct. 18-19.

The summit gave the Army game developers, based out of the Office of Economic Manpower Analysis at the United States Military Academy, an opportunity to meet with other Serious Games developers and showcase the Army program.

The number of Serious Games being developed has been increasing rapidly in recent years, according to the Serious Games Summit Web site. These interactive games go beyond the traditional video game, and include applications focused on training, education, visualization, health and therapy.

"America's Army is a communications tool which is designed for free download on the Internet, and it's a tool that kids can use to try on being a Soldier – virtually," said Col. Casey Wardynski, director of the OEMA, project director of America's Army and associate professor of economics at the USMA.

The game allows people to take a look inside the Army and see what it's like to be a Soldier, Wardynski said. They can go through basic training and airborne school, experience how a Soldier succeeds and even see what happens



Kelli R. Petermeyer

**Dr. Mark Sabol, research psychologist, Army Research Institute, operates the America's Army Talon Robot to dispose of a virtual improvised explosive device.**

when a Soldier gets in trouble.

America's Army is designed to be realistic, so people can see the life of a Soldier and decide if it is something they would like to pursue in real life. It also teaches Army values, Wardynski said.

Some government applications, not available to the general public, are a fundamental way to provide the hands-on skills to Soldiers in a realistic fashion, said Bill Davis, executive producer, America's Army future applications.

These applications include the Stryker Infantry Carrier Vehicle and the Talon Robot, which has been used in both Iraq and Afghanistan to destroy improvised explosive devices.

America's Army was launched July 4, 2002, and the public version is free for download at [www.americas-army.com](http://www.americas-army.com). Soldiers can register to have the Army star next to their virtual persona so others playing the game know they are playing with a real Soldier, Wardynski said.

## Briefs

**Free Admission to Hawaiian Waters Adventure Park** – All active duty, Reservist, National Guard and retirees get free entry to Hawaiian Waters Adventure Park On Veterans Day, Nov. 11. Pre-sale tickets are still available, but free tickets are limited. Contact ITR offices on Schofield Barracks at 655-9971 or Fort Shafter at 438-1985.

**IAW Policy Memo USAG HI-11 Place of Duty for Soldiers is at Designated Parent Teacher Conferences** – A strong presence at PTCs is what helps make schools strong. It facilitates parental involvement and also keeps an open dialog with the child's teacher.

Parent Teacher Conference dates by school:

- Leilehua High – Nov. 8 – 10.
- Solomon Elementary – Nov. 15 – 24.

For more information contact the appropriate school.

**The Army Community Service Centers Closure Dates** – ACS will be closed on Monday, Nov. 8 on Fort Shafter from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. On Schofield Barracks 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. This closure will allow staff to participate in the annual ACS Volunteer Awards and Appreciation Luncheon. For more information, call Alohalinda Bolosan at 655-2390.

**Schofield Barracks and Shafter ID Card Sections Closed** – Nov. 12 Schofield Barracks and Fort Shafter ID card sections will be closed. Normal business hours will resume at 7:30 a.m. on Nov. 15. For more information, call Master Sgt. Constance Ceasar at 655-2959.

**SAEDA/OPSEC Briefs in November** – The Hawaii Resident Office, 205th Military Intelligence Battalion will present community subversion and espionage directed against the army and operations security briefs in November at Fort Shafter, Schofield Barracks and at Tripler. Soldiers and D.A. civilians are required to receive a SAEDA brief at least once a year. Dates and locations are as follows:

Nov. 15, 10 – 11 a.m. at Kyser Auditorium, Tripler.

Nov. 17, 10 – 11 a.m. at Sgt. Smith Theater, Schofield Barracks.

Nov. 30, 2 – 3 p.m. at Richardson Theater, Fort Shafter.

Contact your unit security manager for more information or call the 205th MI Bn. at 438-1872 or e-mail 205mihro@shafter.army.mil.

**Tricare Special Pharmacy Bulletin** – In the transition to a new retail con-

tract beginning on June 1 some patients and providers may have been inconvenienced by the enforcement of Tricare's long-standing mandatory generic drug policy. While the Department of Defense seeks documentation that may have been previously submitted to validate medical necessity, any beneficiary who has received a brand-name product when a generic alternative exists within 180 days from the date of the extension, (from Dec. 21, 2003 through June 18, 2004), will be allowed to continue receiving the brand-name product for a grace period of 180 days from June 18. (This timeframe was extended on Oct. 13 for an additional 60 days, a total of 180 days, and now expires Dec. 12, 2004.).

For more information about the Tricare Pharmacy program, visit the Tricare pharmacy Web site at [www.tricare.osd.mil/pharmacy/](http://www.tricare.osd.mil/pharmacy/) or call (877) 363-6337.

**The Schofield Barracks Military Police Found Property Office** – has several items in its possession. You will need to provide valid identification, a detailed description of the property, and proof of ownership to retrieve lost or stolen items. The Found Property office is located at the Provost Marshal Office, Bldg #3010 Lyman Rd. Schofield Barracks. Hours of operation are Monday through Friday 7 a.m. - 3 p.m. daily. If you have items that have been lost or missing, you can contact SSG Bundra or Mr. Roberts at 655-7114.

**Army Emergency Relief Offers Services for Soldiers and Families** – Army Emergency Relief at Schofield Barracks has provided financial assistance to 536 Soldiers and families of more than \$435,000 during FY 04. In a recent Interactive Customer Evaluation, 90 percent of comments received were positive during the same time period.

AER is a private non-profit, non-government organization. AER provides two types of financial assistance: Emergency financial assistance for deceased, retired or active Army personnel and their family members with a valid financial emergency.

Categories of assistance are provided for emergency travel, food, essential car repair or insurance, emergency medical or dental, rent to prevent eviction and for funeral expenses.

AERs scholarship program provides financial assistance to unmarried dependent children of active and retired Soldiers for undergraduate study, and to spouses residing with active duty Soldiers

assigned to Europe, Korea, Japan and Okinawa.

AER is located in building 2091, Schofield Barracks, at 655-2400. When an emergency occurs after hours or on the mainland, contact the American Red Cross, at 1-877-272-7337.

**Commissary Now has Internet Coupons** – The Defense Commissary Agency is helping customers increase their savings by making Internet coupon links available under a new section at the links page at [www.commissaries.com](http://www.commissaries.com).

"Although we sell groceries at cost, we are always seeking new resources to help our customers increase their savings," said Patrick B. Nixon, chief executive officer for DeCA. "As the trend toward Internet coupons grows, this section of our Web site will continue to grow as well."

Along with top Web sites for military grocery coupons, the new section has a link to a new site that offers a choice of English or Spanish; and for customers who prefer more traditional coupons, another link offers commissary shoppers the opportunity to sign up for coupons by mail.

**2005 All Army Sports Application Deadline Dates** – Men's and women's sports: Cross-Country Nov. 29; Wrestling Dec. 15; Taekwondo Mar. 5; Triathlon Mar. 11. Men's sports: Volleyball Mar. 5. Women's sports: Soccer Feb. 14; Volleyball Mar. 19. Athlete application, DA Form 4762-R January 2001, must be signed by the Soldier's commander and submitted to the U.S. Army Garrison, Hawaii installation sports director. Applications are available at all Army Hawaii gyms. Obsolete editions are not accepted. The sports office is located in the Ka'ala Recreation Center, building 556, Schofield Barracks. For more information call 655-9914 or 655-0101.

**OCS Selection Board** – The next D.A. Officer Candidate School Selection Board is scheduled to convene the week of Jan. 24. Soldiers who wish to be considered by this selection board must submit their applications through command channels to Military Personnel Division, D.A. Boards Section, Trailer 14, Room 4, on Ayers Ave., Schofield Barracks until Nov. 18.

The Installation Structured Interview Panel will convene Dec. 6 to interview qualified applicants. Specific interview dates, times, and location will be provided to each individual applicant. Eligibility criteria and application procedures are outlined in AR 350-51. For more information call Nan Lucero at 655-4511 or Corinne Queja at 655-1845.

**Free Packing Materials** – spouses and families of military members who are deployed overseas can get free packing materials from the postal service. To take advantage of this service call: 1-800-610-8734 and (press 1 for English and then 3 for an operator) and they will send free boxes, packing materials, tape and mailing labels.

These products are to be used to mail care packages to service members. Log on to [supplies.usps.gov](http://supplies.usps.gov). Call the 1-800-610-8734 to receive priority mailing tape. Some of the items available online are: Box 7-12x12x8, Box 4-7x7x6, 106A - Labels, Form 2976A - Customs Form, Form 2976E - Envelope for Customs Form.

**Honolulu Symphony** – All military personnel are invited to save 20 percent when they purchase tickets to Honolulu Symphony shows. For a complete listing of show times and more information on the military discount, go to [www.ticketmaster.com/promo/7463](http://www.ticketmaster.com/promo/7463).

**Off-post Loaner Furniture Program Discontinued** – The on-post loaner program has

not changed. Those who have loaner furniture and live off-post can continue to use the borrowed furnishings until the 90-day period is up or household goods arrive. All incoming military are encouraged to bring washers and dryers in household goods shipment. Contact the DPW Furnishings Section at 655-1131 or Kelli Wilson, at 275-3122.

**Free Money for College** – The Maj. Gen. James Ursano Scholarship Fund helps Army families with the costs of undergraduate level education, vocational training, and preparation

for acceptance by service academies for dependent children. Funds can be used for tuition, fees, books, supplies, and on or off campus housing. Eligibility: Applicants must be dependent children of Army Soldiers on active duty, retired or deceased while on active duty or after retirement. The children of Gray Area Retirees are also eligible. Deadline is March 1.

For more specific information about deadlines and documentation visit Army Emergency Relief on the Web at [www.aerhq.org](http://www.aerhq.org). Call (703) 428-0035 or e-mail [education@aerhq.org](mailto:education@aerhq.org).

## DoD stresses troop support mail Policy

DoD News Release

The Department of Defense announced today the continued suspension of the "Any Servicemember" mail program. Accordingly, the general public is urged not to send unsolicited mail, care packages or donations to service members during the holiday season.

During this time of the year, the number of donation programs increases and causes mail from families and friends to be mixed with mail from unknown sources resulting in delivery delays.

DoD continues to emphasize that names and addresses of military service members must not be distributed by the media, Web sites, companies, non-profit organizations, schools and individuals for the purpose of collecting letters of support or donations for mailing to service members.

Service members should

receive mail only from those friends and family members to whom they personally give their address.

Military addresses should not be passed around by family members for use by donation programs. Unknown mailers could then obtain those addresses and mail harmful items to service members.

For these reasons, DoD continues to indefinitely suspend general donation programs from unknown mailers.

Americans, who don't have loved ones deployed overseas, can still show support during the holidays by other means.

A list of these programs is available at <http://www.defendamerica.mil>.

To guarantee mail arrives in time for end of year holidays, family members are encouraged to view the mailing guidelines at [www.usps.com/cpim/ftp/bulletin/2004/pb22138.pdf](http://www.usps.com/cpim/ftp/bulletin/2004/pb22138.pdf).

# USARPAC selects top career counselors

Sgt. Maj. Chester Miller  
USARPAC Command Career  
Counselor

The competition was tough as U.S. Army Pacific conducted its FY04 Regular Army and Reserve Component Career Counselors of the Year Selection Oct. 14.

Lt. Gen. John M. Brown III, commander USARPAC, awarded Meritorious Service Medals to Sgt. 1st Class Suzanne M. Delarosa, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 25th Infantry Division (Light) Reserve component winner, and Staff Sgt. Stephen B. Dye, HHC, 4th Battalion 23rd Inf. Regiment, Fort Richardson, Alaska, regular Army winner.

The board was conducted by Command Sgt. Maj. Mark Farley, USARPAC Command Sgt. Maj., which comprised of six Sergeants Major representing all the subordinate commands.

Farley said "These NCOs are performing very well in a tough job during a very busy time in our Army. Through their efforts, and the efforts of the leaders in our units, we are guaranteeing the future success of the Army."

Career counselors are responsible for making the Army's retention mission. They also keep commanders in the loop on attrition management. Counselors are well-rounded NCOs commanders constantly rely on for advice and assistance.

Counselors must first achieve 100 percent of their assigned mission for the fiscal year, no bad records or

counseling's and must have won at their division level board before competing on the USARPAC level.

That encompasses more competition and experience before this level.

Dye was honored to win, stating "to be selected as the winner or even

“

*Through their efforts, and the efforts of the leaders in our units, we are guaranteeing the future success of the Army.”*

*- Command Sgt. Maj. Mark Farley, USARPAC Command Sgt. Maj.*

to compete at the MACOM level has to leave a person with the feeling of pride for their accomplishments."

Making it to this level is no easy task, Dye said, "I received help from all the career counselors I know, but Master Sgt. Deardorff, Master Sgt. Ford, and Sgt. 1st Class Burke gave me the majority of help by constantly asking questions."

The Command Career Counselor for Alaska, Sgt. Maj. Anthony Zangrilli said "To achieve this degree of success is unquestionably a difficult task, Staff Sergeant Dye's hard work, long hours, professionalism, and unparalleled dedication to Soldiers and their families contributed immeasurably to his selec-

tion."

Dye is looking forward to the next board and wants to bring home a win at the Department of Army level.

Delarosa was very sharp and had a great understanding of both the regular Army and Reserve issues.

"I have prepared for this board and I am ready to go," she stated. The road she paved to get here was no easy task, she works full-time in the 25th Inf. Div. (L) transition office, pursues her bachelors degree with college courses, all while raising a family.

She told the board members, "I have very long days, but the rewards are great, and I wouldn't change a thing."

The event closed with an awards luncheon at the Fort Shafter Hale Ikena. These two winners and participants were presented an eagle, plaques, and numerous awards from other supporters of the USARPAC Retention program and the U.S. Army Pacific.

The next board for these winners will be at the Secretary of the Army board slated in January 2005 at the Pentagon.

"The Army retention program is in good hands and postured for continued success with these NCOs," concluded Farley.

Meritorious Service Medals were only awarded to the winners at this board, the others will receive awards from their division commanders.

Participants also included Staff Sgt. Albert Hamel, Japan, and Sgt. 1st Class Shane Woods, 25th Inf. Div. (L).



SPC Clint Perkins

Lt. Gen. John M. Brown III, commander USARPAC shakes hands with Staff Sgt. Stephen B. Dye after awarding the Meritorious Service Medal for winning USARPAC Career Counselor of the Year. Command Sgt. Maj. Mark Farley, USARPAC CSM, looks on.

## Crime prevention starts with you

Compiled by Joy Boisselle

Denying opportunity to a criminal is the answer to successful crime prevention said U.S. Army Hawaii top cop, Col. Kevin T. LaMar, commander of the Military Police Brigade.

Since the deployment, many security initiatives have been implemented throughout U.S. Army Hawaii.

### Improved security measures:

- Increased walking, vehicle, and bike patrols.
- New perimeter fencing in several housing areas.
- More Department of the Army police officers, and closed circuit television monitors.
- Doubled military police presence at Helemano Military Reservation and Wheeler Army Air Field and nearly doubled across USARHAW.

One of the areas LaMar wants to expand is bike patrols.

The vision is to create a community-policing program where residents and their children recognize, interact, and establish a rapport with the police officers serving their communities.

### Crime prevention tips:

Be vigilant, lock and secure your homes and cars, pick up items around the house that are easily stolen, such as bikes, toys, and tools.

Don't leave valuables in plain sight in cars, and know where your teenagers are and what they are doing.

Furthermore, LaMar said, "Look out after yourselves, look out after your neighbors, and if you see something or someone out

of the ordinary in your neighborhoods, call the MPs."

### Protect yourself at home:

- Keep all doors locked, both home and car.
- Pick up and secure bikes, toys, and tools around the home.
- Do not open doors to strangers.
- Install dusk-to-dawn lighting or lights that sense motion and turn on when dark.
- Keep all windows locked when not in use.
- Keep all bushes that hide windows and doors pruned or remove them.
- Use your initials instead of your name on mailboxes and telephone books.
- Get your property marked.
- Pets will alert families when intruders are around.
- Look out for neighbors.

### Outside the home:

- Be aware of surroundings.
- Avoid poorly lighted areas and places where there are few people.
- Carry keys in your hand when approaching the car or house.
- Look alert and walk with a purpose as if you have somewhere to go.

### If you are attacked:

If you cannot run, sit down to avoid being knocked down and injured. Yell! Scream! It could scare off an attacker.

If you are held up or your purse is snatched: Do not resist. Give up your valuables rather than risk injury. Your life is more important.

Finally, report all incidents to the military police at 655-5555.



Courtesy Photo

Reporters interview Sgt. Jorge DeLeon (left) during the New York City Marathon, two months after his amputation, in July.

# Soldier gives back, has high spirits despite amputation

By Spc. Daniel P. Kelly  
Assistant Editor

Life hasn't been too easy during the last six months for Sgt. Jorge L. DeLeon. After being attacked while on a patrol in Ghazi, Afghanistan May 12, DeLeon lost the bottom part of his right leg after an explosion. Despite his loss, DeLeon is living life to it's fullest with family and friends, and is helping to inspire other wounded veterans along the way.

"I'm not mad at the Army for what happened to me," DeLeon said about the attack. "I had just gotten back from a one-year-hardship tour from Korea last March, and I volunteered to go with my unit in April."

DeLeon is an infantryman with Company B, 2nd Battalion, 5th Infantry Regiment, and said he likes being a Soldier.

"I used to be a police officer in Puerto Rico before I joined the Army," he added with a smile. "I like helping people, and I like wearing the (Army) uniform."

DeLeon said the Army, and especially his unit, have helped him and his family through the difficult time.

"Everyone's been great," he said. "My unit's been awesome."

The Department of the Army flew DeLeon's spouse Nydia and two children to Walter Reed Medical Center, Washington D.C. while DeLeon had his amputation, and surgery on his left leg that was broken in the explosion.

Nydia said she supports her husband, and his decision to go to Afghanistan.

"I'm proud of my husband," she said. "I'm proud that he did his job out there (in Afghanistan) and is back home safe."



Courtesy Photo

Sgt. Jorge L. DeLeon sits with his daughter Amanda, 1, at the Walter Reed Medical Center hotel during his recovery from surgery.

Of all the number of difficulties DeLeon is facing with his new disability, he said his family suffers the most for him.

"This is hardest on my family," he said. "I can't mow the lawn right now, and my wife has to do most of the work around the house that I would usually do."

But things around the DeLeon house aren't down in spirit, DeLeon explained.

"I am no different today than I was when I had my leg," he said with a smile. "I just don't have all my right leg. As soon as my left leg heals up, I'll be able to walk again with my prosthetic leg."

Just two months after DeLeon's injury, he competed in the New York City Marathon with 167 other disabled veterans, 90 percent who were injured in war. DeLeon sat in a three-wheeled bicycle with a hand crank for propulsion and placed fifth out of 167. He

was the only Hispanic disabled veteran to compete, DeLeon said.

"It was lots of fun," he added.

DeLeon is also helping other disabled veterans with his positive attitude and some help from Veteran Affairs. They pay the way for DeLeon and a group of disabled veterans to visit other injured Soldiers for inspiration and support.

"I go to hospitals to visit them (disabled veterans)," he said. "It makes me feel great."

DeLeon was awarded the Purple Heart Medal and the Combat Infantryman Badge for his service and sacrifice in Operation Enduring Freedom.

While DeLeon has the choice of retiring from the Army at this point, he said he is still undecided.

"I like the Army," he said. "I just need to talk to my wife more, because I want to do what's best for my family."

# Top cop says 'get facts on crime, don't spread rumors'

By Joy Boisselle  
Staff Writer

Rumors are those bits of so-called information that pass from person to person, sometimes with the speed of a California brushfire, that have little to no basis in fact.

They usually fall in two distinct categories, the harmless, benign rumor or the harmful, malignant rumor.

According to U.S. Army Hawaii top cop, Col. Kevin T. LaMar, commander of the Military Police Brigade - Hawaii, the rumors circulating about crime on USARHAW installations is of the latter type and most importantly, they are negatively affecting Soldiers and their families.

"We have a very small number of people fueling the rumor mill that there has been an increase in criminal activity on our installations - this is simply not true," LaMar said.

LaMar, in a recent interview, attempted to dispel the crime rumors, offer tips on crime prevention, and provide information on where to go to get the facts about crime on Army Hawaii installations.

At the October Town Hall meeting, LaMar targeted the top rumors, about increases in crimes against property, rape and sexual assault.

Additionally, he delivered a detailed synopsis of property and sex crime incidents that had taken place on Fort Shafter and Schofield Barracks, as well as housing areas including Helemano Military Reservation, Wheeler Army Air Field, and Aliamanu Military Reservation.

"I am here to dispel the rumors and misrepresentation of facts relating to crime," LaMar said.

The statistics indicate that shortly before and since the deployment there has been no increase in crime overall on USARHAW installations.

Since January, crime against property, which includes burglary, house break-ins, and larceny of private property, has remained relatively consistent with previous years' figures and in some categories even reflects a downward trend.

In fact, LaMar said, some areas have actually experienced a decrease in crime, like Schofield Barracks, while there has been a recent spike in larceny incidents at AMR.

For concerned AMR residents, LaMar said, "This is an ongoing investigation, and we do have leads."

However, he cautioned, "This is not like CSI where the crime is investigated and solved in an hour. Real-life investigations take time and I encourage anyone with information to come forward."

Further, LaMar cited unsecured property, such as bikes not locked up, open vehicles with valuables in plain sight, and open houses as the biggest contributor towards crime against property.

Dispelling one popular rumor, he said, "Indications are that the majority of crimes against property, based on when it occurs and what is taken, is not people outside our installations, but our own teenagers and young Soldiers."

As for rumors circulating about crimes against persons, including rapes and assaults, LaMar said, "There has been no

increase in rape or attempted rape or an increase in indecent or alleged indecent assault in our communities."

Most reported rape incidents concerned Soldier against Soldier in the barracks. All but one case involved excessive alcohol use as a contributing factor. Of the 11 reported rapes USARHAW-wide, three have been founded.

The influence of crime rumors is far-reaching. "Unfortunately, this small minority that perpetuates these rumors for

“

*We have a very small number of people fueling the rumor mill that there has been an increase in criminal activity on our installations - this is simply not true.*

- Col. Kevin T. LaMar

whatever reason don't realize they are causing undue concern on others throughout the community and on our deployed Soldiers," said LaMar.

Specifically, LaMar said Soldiers forward-deployed need to know their families are safe and secure here so they can concentrate on their missions in theater.

"The people spreading these rumors don't understand they are causing angst for their deployed spouses that doesn't exist and causes them not to be as focused on their job," he said.

Rumor control is at best, difficult and perceptions based on rumors can be difficult to overcome. Nevertheless, to that end, LaMar had several suggestions aimed at easing the crime rumor situation.

"A great source of information regarding rumors is your rear detachment and Family Readiness Group leaders," he explained. He also cited the Monthly Town Hall as another good way to get an immediate answer to a rumor question.

"We have nothing to gain by lying to you, because our credibility is at stake. We are not hiding anything concerning crime statistics and we will tell you the facts," he stated firmly.

And, the easiest way to stop a rumor is don't pass it on he said.

To the rumormongers, he said, "Rumors are no good for the community, no good for your own credibility as a person, and just plain, not fair to our deployed Soldiers."

*(Editor's Note: To get the facts regarding rumors about crime on USARHAW installations, contact Mike Hamilton, Schofield Barracks Deputy Provost Marshall, at 655-0683.*

*For the Fort Shafter area, contact Lt. Col. Chris Dudley, Fort Shafter Provost Marshall, at 438-8724. Read crime prevention tips on page A-5)*

# USARPAC helps build school for youth

By Sharon Mulligan  
U.S. Army, Pacific Public Affairs

Back to school has a new meaning for a group of Vietnamese children. Instead of their former dilapidated schoolhouse, these children found a new and spacious school in its place – courtesy of the U.S. Army.

As part of a U.S. Army, Pacific Humanitarian Assistance mission, USARPAC personnel worked with local construction and support contractors to build a new 10-room primary school in Dong Hoi, Quang Binh Province, Vietnam.

This school will greatly improve the quality of life for the youth in the surrounding areas, said Maj. Don Hicks, 412th Engineer Command (Forward), Hawaii operations officer with the Assistant Chief of Staff for Engineering, U.S. Army, Pacific. "The old school was structurally unsafe. There were stress cracks throughout the structure and the roof was about to cave in."

In addition to being unsafe, the previous school was also very overcrowded.

"There wasn't enough room for the children to all attend classes at once," he added. "The building just couldn't accommodate the amount of students attending so they had to go to school in shifts. With this new facility, they'll all be able to go to school together."

The new school offers the opportunity of a brighter future for the children attending classes there. The engineer project involved tearing down the old school and constructing in its place a new center of learning. The new primary school was designed to provide the young students with a wonderful place to learn and grow. It features modern conveniences, quality construction, and upgraded furnishings.

Humanitarian Assistance missions are part of Pacific Command's Theater Security Cooperation Program. This construction project marked the first U.S. Army Engineer effort north of the 17th Parallel, for-



Maj. Don Hicks

**As part of a Humanitarian Assistance mission, U.S. Army, Pacific personnel worked with local construction and support contractors to build a new a 10-room primary school in a rural area of Dong Hoi, Quang Binh Province in Vietnam.**

merly North Vietnam, since the end of the Vietnam Conflict.

About 450 children will attend school at the complex, which is in an area about 500 kilometers from the capital city of Hanoi. Quang Binh Province spreads along the northern part of central Vietnam and is the narrowest part of the country. This area has a population of over 810,000 people.

USARPAC and the 412th Engineer Command (Forward), Hawaii take projects like this one from the "cradle to the grave."

"We plan, design, provide quality assurance, and work with the host country to develop these projects," Hicks said. "It's wonderful to see a project completed that will help so many young people."

Planning for humanitarian assis-



Maj. Don Hicks

**An exterior view of the previous schoolhouse Vietnamese children attended because the former one was overcrowded and structurally unsafe. It has been replaced with a new modern two-story facility.**

tance missions like this one takes many months and involves coordination with various United States and foreign government agencies.

The whole process requires about 12 to 15 months, with an actual construction time of six months, Hicks said. Part of that time is spent determining what services and equipment are needed at the new facility. "Whatever structure we build, we try to make it the best in the area. This school will serve the community well for many years to come."

At the ribbon cutting ceremony, many of the villagers turned out for the celebration including some of the smallest members. The children who will attend the school lined up outside their new center of learning to help officially open it.

USARPAC personnel were also on hand to welcome the community. The school was officially completed at the end of September. There was still some detail work, such as landscaping and finishing touches to do but according to Hicks "it was complete and usable. It was ready for classes to begin."

"It makes you feel good to look back at the end of a mission and know that you've helped a lot of people," Hicks said. "It's also good to know that the work we've done helps create an atmosphere of goodwill towards the American people."

"The community was so receptive of us," Hicks said. "This was the first time we have worked in this province and they were really appreciative of everything the Army has done." Although this is the first engineer mission to this area it is not the first in Vietnam. Hicks said that prior to this mission there have been eight medical facilities constructed in the Hue Province.

By helping to improve the lives of others, the Army can build and strengthen relationships. These relationships foster cooperation and help build ties that may allow for increased access and further missions in the future.

## Building dedicated to 2-5 Inf. Soldier



Courtesy photo

Officials at West Point, N.Y. dedicated an arms room Oct. 29 in memory of Maj. Gerald Compton, 2nd Battalion, 5th Infantry, who died of a heart attack while training there in 2003.

Compton was the former S-3 who managed many of the battalion's training and administrative tasks.

Rear detachment commander, Capt. David M. Gohlich, described Compton as "a good guy and left a gaping hole in the battalion's leadership since he was the 'go-to' guy for everything."

The ceremony was held at Camp Natural Bridge and Compton's parents, Master Sgt. (ret) Gerald H. and Sue Jo Ha Compton, attended.

# Up-Armored vehicle effort progressing full steam ahead

By Donna Miles

*American Forces Press Service*

WASHINGTON – The assembly lines are moving 24/7 to keep up with the demand for up-armored vehicles in Iraq and for conversion kits to add extra protection to vehicles already there.

Gary Motsek, director of support operations for the U.S. Army Materiel Command, said the effort to provide increased vehicle protection against grenades, improvised explosive devices and small-arms fire is progressing fast and furiously as demand continues to increase.

Nearly 5,100 up-armored Humvees have been delivered to Army and Marine Corps units in Iraq, with another 724 on ships bound for the theater, Motsek said.

There, the up-armored Humvees are being issued to units based on their missions — regardless whether they're Army or Marine Corps, or active or reserve component, Motsek emphasized. "These factors have no bearing whatsoever on who's getting them," he said. "It's all based on the missions, and who has the greatest need for them," he said.

U.S. Central Command's current requirement for up-armored Humvees, one that has continued to increase, is for 8,105 up-armored Humvees in Iraq.

It's a number Motsek said was once considered almost unthinkable. At the beginning of the Iraqi war, the Army had only about 500 up-armored Humvees, called "UAHs," in its inventory. These were primarily used by military police units in their rear-protection role, he said.

No longer. Because they're easy to maneuver and just the right size for many of the missions being conducted in Iraq, Humvees have become "the

platform of choice," Motsek said.

"If anyone would have told me a Humvee would be the platform of choice in a war, I would have told them they're crazy," he said.

Motsek said AM General, the company that builds the up-armored Humvees, has gone into around-the-clock production to churn out the vehicles as quickly as possible, but still is able to produce only several hundred a month.

"There's a perception that all you need to do is cut some carbon steel and slap it on the side of a vehicle," Motsek said. "That's simply not the case."

In addition to increased armor protection, up-armored Humvees feature more rugged suspension systems able to handle the added weight and ballistic-resistant glass. They also include air conditioners that enable crews to operate with the windows up, even in stifling temperatures.

Unwilling to leave deployed troops vulnerable while the production lines struggled to keep up with the demand, the Army came up with a second solution: add-on armor kits.

Not confident that commercial contractors could respond to the need quickly enough, Motsek said the Army ultimately designed and designed its own add-on armor kits in record time.

Engineers at the Army Research Laboratory in Adelphi, Md., went to the drawing board to design the kits "over a weekend," he said. The Army field-tested them at Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Md., to ensure they met strict ballistics protection standards.

Even as the field tests were taking place, the Army started ordering the special steel and bullet-resistant glass needed to build the vehicles, he said.

That calculation proved to be decisive in moving the effort forward with unprecedented

speed. Within six weeks of putting pen to paper to come up with a design, Motsek said the Army had the first kits in hand, ready for shipment to Iraq.

In contrast, the normal procurement process takes five to seven years.

The Army also field tested prototype add-on armor kits from several contractors, Motsek said, ultimately settling on one produced by O'Gara-Hess & Eisenhardt.

Today, Army employees at four depots, two arsenals and an ammunition plant are working three shifts a day, producing the Army-designed kits to keep up with demand. Motsek said they've produced 8,800 add-on-armor kits, 8,700 of which have already been installed in vehicles in Iraq. O'Gara-Hess & Eisenhardt has provided 289 more kits, he said.

Yet despite the progress, Motsek said employees at production facilities keep their eye on the demand for more kits. The current requirement is for 13,872 kits.

During a recent visit to Letterkenny Army Depot, Pa., one facility producing the kits, Motsek said he was particularly impressed with the motivation of the workers he saw. One worker, who operated a laser-cutting machine that cuts the steel used in the kits, hadn't taken a single day off — not weekends, not holidays — since starting the job seven months earlier.

"No sir, I have a mission to do," was the employee's response, Motsek said.

In addition to Letterkenny, other Army facilities producing the kits are Anniston Army Depot, Ala.; Red River Army Depot, Texas; Sierra Army Depot, Calif.; Watervliet Arsenal, N.Y.; Rock Island Arsenal, Ill.; and Crane Ammunition Activity, Ind.

Fueling the motivation of

workers at these facilities, Motsek said, are the testimonials they regularly receive from Iraq from troops who credit the kits with saving their lives. "That's a real motivator, when you hear Soldiers telling stories about how they were able to survive because of their up-armored equipment," he said.

While the military moves double-time to up-armor its Humvees, it's also producing add-on armor kits for other vehicles in Iraq.

Motsek said the Army began anticipating this requirement even before U.S. Central Command passed it down, and laying the groundwork for a quick response.

So far, the Army has installed armor add-on kits on almost 400 Heavy Expanded Mobile Tactical Trucks, or HEMTTs, about 35 Palletized Load System tactical trucks and 450 vehicles from the Army's Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles, he said.

In addition, Motsek said the Army is in the process of buying the new Armored Support Vehicle, which he describes as a "mini Stryker vehicle" that's larger and has more armor protection than even the up-armored or enhanced Humvees.

The Army currently has 70 Armored Support Vehicles, all en route to Iraq, where they will support convoy movement, he said.

"For us, the bottom line is getting this equipment to the theater as quickly as possible," Motsek summarized. "When you're putting people in harms way, you want to ensure that they have everything they need to protect them as they carry out their missions."



Spc. Jessica Ross

**Lt. Col. Patricia Matlock, commander of the 17th Corps Support Battalion, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, unfurls the unit's colors, signifying the official transfer of authority from the 44th CSB to the 17th.**

## 17th Corps Support Battalion takes command

By Spc. Jessica Ross  
*FORSCOM Forces at the Front*

MOSUL, Iraq – The 17th Corps Support Battalion took over for the 44th Corps Support Battalion out of Fort Lewis, Wash. in a transfer of authority ceremony here Oct. 5.

The 17th CSB, a part of the 45th Corps Support Group, has been deployed in support of both Operations Iraqi Freedom I and Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

The unit began its training in preparation for Operation Iraqi Freedom II in May and completed a division level certification training course that prepared them at the squad, company and platoon levels for their deployment to Iraq. The training involved convoy live-fire exercises, Soldier skills, common threats and improvised explosive device training.

"The 17th CSB assumes the mission to provide seamless support to coalition forces in our area of operation," said Lt. Col. Patricia Matlock, commander of the 17th CSB.

"We will succeed and will embody our motto 'Always ready,'" concluded Matlock.

# Speed, precision are artillery's goal

By Sgt. Frank Magni  
17th Public Affairs Det.

**FORWARD OPERATING BASE SALERNO, Afghanistan** – To see them operate is like watching a meticulously choreographed routine. Each in his place, reacting instinctively to numbers and commands – so polished and prepared one member of the team can anticipate the actions of another.

While most observers are just in awe of the sheer power of an M-119 or M-198 howitzer, the procedures and details that go into firing these weapons can seem insignificant. But to members of a howitzer section, the procedures and details are their primary mission and the very reason for accuracy, said Capt. Brendan Raymond, Battery F, 7th Field Artillery Regiment, commander.

“We are accurate because we rely heavily on the efficiency and precision of every member of the battery,” said Raymond.

For members of Btry. F, the stakes are too high not to execute each fire mission with as much precision as possible.

“If we fail, we could kill friendly forces down range,” said Staff Sgt. Alwin Antonio, Btry. F, 7th FA Rgt., section chief.

“We constantly chase every mil, because it could mean the difference between two or twenty meters,” he said.

Due to the precise nature of their profession, artillerymen use mils rather than degrees to determine the gunnery solution. There are 17.77 mils in a degree.

In their never ending quest for excellence, artillerymen ensure that each step of the gunnery solution is computed down to the exact mil.

The “chasing mils” mentality is reflected in everything the howitzer section does, as well as in the rest of the battery.

“We are always trying to achieve that perfect ballistic solution,” said Raymond.

To get close to the perfect ballistic solution, artillery units factor even the smallest details.

From meteorological data, to the weapon’s muzzle velocity, everything is monitored. Howitzer sections even keep a close eye on propellant temperature, because numerous factors affect a projectile in flight.

“The fact that we are always accounting for these different conditions just makes us more dangerous on the battlefield,” said Raymond.

Although most data collected is calculated by computer, gathering the data and eventually applying it still falls to the Soldiers in the howitzer section and other



Sgt. Frank Magni

**Spc. Greg Murray, Batt. F, 7th FA Rgt., jacks up the 15,760-pound M-198 howitzer so it can be rotated to a different azimuth of fire.**

sections in the battery.

“Attention to detail is not only a part of our job as artillerymen, but it is a way of life when you are on the line,” said Spc. Adam Foisy, Btry. F, 7th FA Rgt., assistant gunner.

“You double-check everything you do,” he added.

To ensure all data is being accurately calculated and applied, artillery batteries use time-tested methods to ensure the howitzer section’s success.

“Everything has a dual, independent check,” said Raymond.

“From the (fire direction center) to the (forward observers) right down to the (gun line), everything has an extra set of eyes making sure everything is correct.”

For a howitzer section, the extra set of eyes that oversees the entire firing process is the section chief.

While the gunner is responsible for setting the deflection, the assistant gunner is responsible for setting the howitzer’s quadrant. And the ammunition team chief sets up the right kind of round and fuse combination for the fire mission. With all this going on, the section chief verifies each piece of information.

With precision remaining the key concern of the howitzer section, speed is the second goal.

To achieve speed and precision, howitzer sections practice crew drills. Standardized crew drills involve practicing the basic tasks like ammunition preparation, loading and firing the howitzer. The drills also test contingencies such as misfire procedures.

“We constantly train on our crew drills,” said Foisy. “The more we train, the faster we get.”

After months, or even years of training, some howitzer sections can get rounds downrange in a matter of seconds.

“Once my crew has a drill down pat, it is amazing how fast we can be,” said Antonio.

For artillery Soldiers, affectionately known as “Red legs,” speed and efficiency are a matter of pride.

“When everything is going right, it can be one of the biggest adrenaline rushes,” said Pvt. Colt Harris, Btry. F, 7th FA Rgt., cannon crewmember.

“When you are standing behind a howitzer, you feel like one of the most powerful forces on the battlefield,” he said. “I couldn’t imagine doing anything else.”



Photo by Staff Sgt. Bradley Rhen

Sgt. Chris Valdez, a medic with HHC, 2nd Bn., 27th Inf. Rgt., touches the helmet of the Soldiers memorial for Cpl. Billy Gomez Oct. 30 at Forward Operating Base Orgun-E, Afghanistan. Gomez, who was also a medic in HHC, 2-27, died Oct. 27 from injuries he sustained when his vehicle hit an IED Oct. 20 in Afghanistan.

## Gomez

From A-1

bered the many dinners they shared at Outback Steakhouse, the times they played video games throughout the night, and the times they played basketball and got into arguments on the court.

Tui also recalled how Gomez would loyally follow the Raiders throughout the football season "despite their pathetic losing streak." "Where is the trash talking now, Billy?" Tui asked his friend.

Tui, a native of American Samoa said he was going to take Gomez there and show him around, and Gomez was going to take him to California.

"I promised my boy I was gonna take him down to my island and introduce him around, but now that ain't gonna happen," he said.

Capt. Daniel Beard, commander of HHC, 2-27, also spoke at the ceremony, and called Gomez an infantryman's best friend. He said not only was Gomez proficient as a medic, but

he was also a Soldier with a can-do attitude.

"Not once did I hear Corporal Gomez say 'that's not my job' or 'I can't,' because that wasn't Corporal Gomez," Beard said, adding that Gomez always had a smile on his face regardless of what the task might be.

The loss of Gomez is a reminder that there is still a war to fight, and we must fight smarter and harder than we ever have, Beard said.

"We owe this to Corporal Gomez, and if we do not, his loss will be for naught," Beard said.

But for Tui, the loss rings deeper. He lost a friend who he had built an incredible bond with over the last three years. The bond only increased since they deployed to Afghanistan together in March.

"My kids will always remember an Uncle Gomez, a person who helped their dad in the Army, a hero who fought for their freedom," Tui said. "They will hear stories about how brave he was, how tough he was, and how he inspired others to fight on. They will remember Billy Gomez because I will tell them."

## Kids

From A-1

computers, at the State Library and other Internet locations.

Kids Vote Hawaii Elected George W. Bush as President

"I will vote again some day," said 9-year-old Jalissa Cosme, a 3rd grader at Hale Kula.

The students also expressed opinions about voting:

Matthew Pente, 3rd grade, 8-years-old. Why do you think voting is important? -

"Because we are voting for the President."

How do you feel about being able to participate? -

"I think it was fun."

Do you think that you will vote when you are old enough?

-

"Yes, I will vote again in the future."

Jalissa Cosme, 3rd grade 9-

years-old. Why do you think voting is important? -

"I think it is important so that people don't argue. They can't be upset at someone if

they didn't vote."

How do you feel about being able to participate? -

"I was glad to be able to vote."

Do you think that you will vote when you are old enough?

-

"Yes, I would vote again."

Dakota Terrell, 4th grade, 9-

years-old.

How do you feel about participating? -

"I am glad to be able to because some people don't get this chance."



Courtesy photo

Artist's rendering of what the new PX on Schofield Barracks will look like when it is completed in 2006.

## PX

From A-1

all is done, this post is really going to be nice he added.

How nice is the question. The new PX will almost quadruple in size. Miyazono tried to put the size of the store into perspective.

"The new store will be about half the size of the Navy Exchange and Commissary at Pearl Harbor and about 20,000 square feet bigger than say the Mililani Wal-Mart."

As for merchandise, there will be no inventory losses in any department currently housed in the PX, but an addition at the new store will be the house wares section currently located in the PX

Furniture Store.

"Everything is expanding," said Miyazono, "The new facility will have what you see here now, and more."

One dramatic change will be at the food court. It will expand from less than 1,000 square feet and seating for 76 to almost 18,000 square feet and seating for nearly 700. Eating choices will jump from the current three to ten and include, Burger King, Blimpie, Charley's Steakery, Man Chu Wok, and Colter's BBQ.

Another coming attraction is the creation of an indoor mall area for PX concessionaires and their customers. Currently, concession stands are outside the PX under

small tents, rain or shine.

According to Miyazono, the mall concept should attract a better variety of vendors and offer a true one-stop shopping experience for customers.

Master Sgt. Troy Stephens reflected customer excitement with the new facility. "The best thing is people won't have to commute to NEX and with more space, we will have more variety and selection." Stephens's wife, Sue, also a PX employee, said, "The new PX should attract more customers because we will have more selection and a larger quantity of merchandise."

Summing up the project, Miyazono said, "In a nutshell, everything will be bigger and better."

## Crayon

From A-1

Forces in order for them to build a positive reputation among the Iraqi people.

"We are grateful to provide these supplies to the students," Sgt. Kurzan Adnan, a Kirkuk Iraqi Policeman, said through an interpreter. "I think the supplies will make their studies easier."

Currently, 2nd BCT with the help from the ISF, have donated more than 6,500 basic school supply packages to about 20 different schools in its area of operations.

"It has been bigger than I thought it would be," Reynolds said about Operation Crayon. "It's something that the people from Hawaii plus everybody's family members throughout the states really have stepped up to help with."

According to Reynolds, the operation will carry on throughout the school year.

"As we continue to receive supplies, we will go on with our volunteers to package the items and send them out to different

schools," Reynolds said. "This will be a program that we will hand off to the 116th Cavalry Brigade as they come aboard."

During the Christmas holiday, 2nd BCT is planning to conduct an Operation Santa Claus, where Soldiers will hand out gifts containing items that were donated but not used in the school supply packages. These gifts will target orphanages.

The Operation Crayon staff and its volunteers at Kirkuk Air Base are extending an invitation to those who would like to help bring smiles to the faces of needy children in Iraq.

Items that are needed to help support this operation are: writing paper, construction paper, pencils, pencil sharpeners, pencil erasers, pens, markers, chalk, chalk board erasers, glue, rounded-end scissors, coloring books, soccer balls and jump ropes, band-aids, and of course crayons (preferably in 24 packs).

Mail donations to: Operation Crayon, Chaplain Jonathan Etterbeek, HHC 2nd BCT 25th ID, APO AE 09347-9998.



# COMMUNITY & SPORTS



Friday

B-1

November 5, 2004

By Rafi Grant and  
JO2 Kristin Fitzsimmons  
Contributing Writers

The BooFest launched the 2004 Halloween festivities on Bellows Air Force Station Oct. 16. The well-known haunted house was only one of the many spooky activities within the Hawaii military community.

Hallie and Michaela were waiting at the door of the haunted house. Suddenly, the door opened and a skeleton's arm pulled the two girls inside.

"There was a big table with gross dishes like eyeball salad and there were spiders and snakes," recounted Hallie still shaking when she came out the backdoor. Her sister Michaela added, "Something from underneath the table touched me when I wanted to check out the dishes on the table - something cold and wet."

The BooFest, challenged the young guests with another scary attraction, the Duck of Doom tour. The 20-minute ride wound through ghostly woods accompanied by a 'real' ghost.

Under a canopy of music, young and old took part in free hand and face painting, color hair spraying and mask making; personalized air-brushed T-Shirts and a clown making animals out of balloons; The Rock Wall of Terror, the Bloody Bungee Trampoline and a costume contest topped the evening. Local and American style foods were available and mountains of candy.

Across the island, Wheeler Armed Services YMCA also got an early start on Halloween with a less spooky celebration for tots Oct. 28.

"The SpookFest is also a fundraiser for the YMCA Playmorning Program, a free program that provides learning and socialization opportunities for young military families and their children," said Dela LaFleur, YMCA branch manager.

"Tonight's SpookFest at the YMCA is a great alternative to the regular spooky parties that are organized at Halloween," began Shanna Chain.

"My daughter is only four and still too young for all the scary treats. Here, she gets to do arts and crafts, participate in fun games and enjoy a Halloween that's right for her age."

Moreover, we get to participate in the fundraiser for the YMCA by attending the party."

Down the street, Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers and the Big Brothers Big Sisters of Hawaii teamed up to hold its annual Halloween party at the Tropics on Schofield Barracks Oct. 30. Children were treated to games, pumpkin painting and carving, a movie, and pizza. There were also two piñatas full of candy. The children and their big brother or big sister came dressed up in their favorite costumes.

Across the world, several boxes of toys and stuffed animals were distributed to more than 30 children, who are being treated from anything ranging from a cold to broken bones at the Egyptian Hospital located on the Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan.

The toy donation program was started by the base commander in recognition of International Children's Day and to help improve local community relations.

"I truly love kids," said Spc. Tuneshia Roach, an awards clerk assigned to Combined Joint Task Force 76 CJ1.

"I believe that children only learn what they are taught, and if we can help these children understand how important giving is over hatred then I think we accomplished something tremendous today."

In the midst of the candy and fun, fundraising, spiritual uplifting and nation-building were accomplished on a day best known for witches and tummy aches.

(Spc. Charles Hayes contributed to this article. The Tropics, Nehelani and Schofield Barracks chapel also offered Halloween festivities or alternatives throughout the week.)

## HALLOWEEN across the island, across the world



Rafi Grant



Rafi Grant



Spc. Charles Hayes



Rafi Grant

Above left to right: A peek inside the haunted house on Bellows AFS revealed a creepy monster handing out candy.

Steven Farmer, dressed like a dinosaur, gets busy at the arts and crafts table at the SpookFest while (right) a BOSS participant from Big Brothers, Big Sisters, smashes a piñata style grand slam at the Tropics on Schofield Barracks Oct. 30. (Far right) A very lady-like Alyssa Talayumtewa enjoys chocolate candies she fished from the 'fishing for treats' booth at Wheeler's YMCA fundraiser Oct. 30.

Bottom left: Rebecca Williams experiences frightening heights bouncing on the trampoline at the Bellows BooFest Oct. 16.

Right: Sgt. Maj. Mildred Ruiz assigned to Combined Joint Task Force 76 CJ1 hands a toy to a girl at the Egyptian Hospital in Afghanistan as other children wait to receive their Halloween toys.

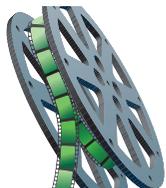


Rafi Grant



JO2 (SW/AW) Kristin Fitzsimmons

**“The King and I”** - Showing at Fort Shafter's Army Community Theatre Nov. 18 - 20, 26, 27 and Dec. 3, 4 beginning at 7:30 p.m. East versus West makes for a dramatic tale. Adult tickets: \$17 and \$14 and children (under 12): \$10 and \$8. Box Office is open 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. Monday - Friday. Tickets can also be purchased online at [www.squareone.org/ACT/tick-](http://www.squareone.org/ACT/tick-)



# This Week at the MOVIES

## Sgt. Smith Theater

Today  
**Hero**  
7 p.m. (PG-13)

Saturday Nov. 6  
**Sky Captain And The World of Tomorrow**  
7 p.m. (PG)

Sunday Nov. 7  
**Wimbeldon**  
7 p.m. (PG-13)

Monday - Thursday  
Closed

## Hickam AFB Movie Schedule

Today  
**Resident Evil: Apocalypse**  
7 p.m. (R)

Saturday Nov. 6  
**Resident Evil: Apocalypse**  
7 p.m. (R)

Sunday Nov. 7  
**The Forgotten**  
7 p.m. (PG-13)

Monday and Tuesday  
Closed

Wednesday Nov. 10  
**The Forgotten**  
7 p.m. (PG-13)

Thursday Nov. 11  
**Mr. 3000** 7 p.m. (PG-13)

ets.html or at Pentagon Federal Credit Union. Call 438-4480 for more information.

**Holiday Craft Sale** - Don't miss out on Koa wood-crafts, pottery, stained glass, ceramics, jewelry and more at the Fort Shafter Arts and Craft Center. Event will be held Nov. 18 and 19, 11 a.m. - 9 p.m. and Nov. 20, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Free transportation from Schofield Barracks Commissary will be provided on Nov. 19, departing at 10:30 a.m. To register for transportation call 655-0111/0112. For more information on the craft sale call 438-1315.

**Driver's Education Classes** - Next Driver's Education Class begins on Nov. 20 at Schofield Barracks and Nov. 13 at Aliamanu. Cost is \$295 for 16 sessions. Registration is only available at the Child and Youth Services Resource and Referral Offices. Adults with military ID cards are welcome to enroll if space is available. Call Schofield 655-6461 or Aliamanu 833-5393.

**“Stories of Hawaii's People”** - Celebrate children's book week at the Schofield Barracks Library for “Stories of Hawaii's

People” told by noted local professional storyteller Nyla Ching-Fujii. Listen as Auntie Nyla brings tales of old Hawaii to life on Nov. 17 at 3 p.m. Program designed for children up to 6th grade. Others are welcome. Call 655-0145.

**Open Recreation Program** - School-Age Services program is now offering free open recreation care on Saturday's for three hours at the following youth centers: Bennett, Helemano, Aliamanu, and Fort Shafter. Activities include computer lab, sports and crafts, and self-directed games. Participants must be in grades K - 5 and be a current member of Child and Youth Services. Space is very limited; reservations must be made 24 hours in advance. Call your nearest center for more information.

**24 Hour Towing** - New 24 Hour Towing service is available from the Auto Craft Center to authorized patrons. Call 368-8534 if in need of a tow.

**Spouse's Night Out Cancelled for Thursday** - The Nov. 11 Spouse's Night Out will not be held due to Veteran's Day Holiday. Look

at next week's Hawaii Army Weekly for a listing of Nov. 18 events and activities. Call 655-2736 for more information.

**Free Entry to Sea Life Park** - Military and dependents can visit Sea Life Park for free during their Military Appreciation Day on Nov. 14 from 9:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. Also enjoy a variety of games, activities, crafts, free scuba lessons and entertainment. Please carpool, parking is limited and will cost \$2. Call the Information, Ticketing and Registration Office for ticket information at 655-9971 or 438-1985.

**Free Entry to Hawaiian Waters Park** - Military and dependents can visit the Hawaiian Waters Park free of charge on Veteran's Day, Nov. 11. Or enjoy the park for only \$9.39 the following day, Nov. 12. Up to four guests of the Military I.D. card holder are invited for a special rate of \$17 per person on either of the above dates. Pre-sale tickets are available and tickets are limited. Call the Information, Ticketing and Registration Office at 655-9971 or 438-1985.

**“The King and I” Preview for Blue Star**

**Card Holders** - Blue Star Card Holders are invited to watch a free “The King and I” presentation at Fort Shafter's Richardson Theatre with free appetizers Nov. 17, 6:30 p.m. Round trip transportation is provided from Peterson Child Development Center on Schofield Barracks, but seating is limited. Transportation reservations must be made by noon on Nov. 15 by calling 655-0111 or 655-0112. Free child care is offered at Peterson to Blue Star Card Holders beginning at 6 p.m. Call 655-8313 for information.

**Monday Night Football** - Enjoy free pupus and live Monday night football at Waianae Beach Club beginning at 4 p.m. with karaoke to follow. Join the fun with drink specials and door prizes. Call 696-4778 for more information. Also at Schofield Barracks Reggie's, live on satellite at 4 p.m. or repeat at 7 p.m. with ice cold beverages and pupu specials. Call 655-4466.

**Donate a Stuffed Animal** - Help fulfill a child's Christmas wish by donating a stuffed animal before Dec. 3. Donations will be accepted at Piliilau Army Recreation Center, Fort Shafter Auto Craft Center and at the Directorate of Community Activities building 350 on Wheeler Army Air Field. Call 696-6026 for information.

**Community Packing Days** - Do you need materials, tape or wrapping paper for your care package? The Fort Shafter library will have materials available on Nov. 7 and 21 and the AMR library will have materials available on Nov. 13. Available from 11 a.m. - 3 p.m. Participants are responsible for postage and taking packages to the post office. Call 438-9521 or 833-4851 for information.

**Schofield Barracks Tropics November Food Special** - Try St. Louis ribs, full rack only \$14.50 or a half rack \$9.50, both offered with two sides. Call 655-0002 for information.

**Parent's Night Out** - Nov. 13, from 6 - 11 p.m. drop off the kids at Child and Youth Services and enjoy an evening out. Fees for Parent's Night Out are as follows: E-5

and below are \$15 for one child and \$5 each additional child. E-6 and above pay \$20 for one child and \$5 for each additional child. If child is not registered with CYS, a \$15 registration fee is applicable. Reservations are on a first come first served basis. Call the registration and referral office for more information: Schofield Barracks at 655-5314 or AMR at 833-5393.

**Vehicle Safety Inspections** - Bring your car to the MWR Auto Craft Center from the 1st to the 15th of the month and receive \$2 off the normal price of a vehicle inspection. Non-tinted window cars cost \$10. \$15 for tinted windows. Call Fort Shafter at 438-9402 or Schofield Barracks at 655-9368.

**Mongolian BBQ** - Select from a large variety of meats and vegetables, and we'll grill them to personal preferences Nov. 10 beginning at 5 p.m. at the Nehelani, Schofield Barracks with seating at Reggie's. Cost is \$4 for the first four ounces and \$.65 each ounce after. Reservations required by calling 655-0660.

**Hawaiian Luau Lunch Buffet** - Taste a local cuisine buffet at Reggie's Restaurant on Schofield Barracks Nov. 19, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Perfect for office parties. Cost is \$8.95. Call 655-4466 for information.

**Turkey Coloring Contest** - Ages 12 and under can enter to win! Entry blanks are available at the Tropics on Schofield Barracks. Entries will be displayed at Tropics throughout the month of November. The winner will be selected by random drawing from all the entries submitted at the end of the month. Call 655-0002 for more information.

**Sunday Brunch** - Foods with flavors from the Pacific Rim, Asia and Hawaii at the Hale Ikena on Fort Shafter. Brunch is served from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Cost is \$19.95 for adults with children's pricing available. Reservations required, 438-1974. Reggie's on Schofield Barracks offers a brunch buffet with classic favorites from 10:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. The cost is \$12.95 for adults with children's pricing available. Call 655-4466 for information.

HACN TV Schedule		Nov. 5 - 11	
	Morning	4:00	Pentagon Channel
6:00	Sign on		
6:30	Fit for Life		
7:00	Bulletin Board	6:00	Evening
7:30	SHAMU-Wild Babies	6:03	Voting 04' Assist Program
7:55	PAMS Report 2004	6:13	Community Focus
8:00	Pentagon Channel	6:15	Living History Day
9:00	Pentagon Channel	6:15	Bulletin Board
10:00	ASAP-Fitness For Duty	6:47	Arm Values Respect
10:30	OIF Photo Montage 7	6:53	OIF Photo Montage 3
10:46	Bulletin Board	7:00	NFL-Tight on the Spiral
11:30	Hawaii Hidden Beauty, Danger	8:00	OEF Deployment Ceremony
11:50	OIF Photo Montage 6	8:30	OEF Deployment Luau
12:00	Pentagon Channel	8:50	History of JAG
	Afternoon	9:00	Anti Terrorism FP
2:02	Hurricane Safety	9:30	Oakland Army Base
2:21	Voting 04' Assist program	10:00	Youth Protection
2:28	OIF Photo Montage 2	11:00	NFL-'58 Championship Game
2:23	PAMS report 2004	12:12	Bulletin Board
2:30	SHAMU-The Manatee		Overnight
3:00	SHAMU-The Sea Turtle	12:46	Pentagon Channel
3:40	OAHU-Aloha Begins		
3:50	OIF Photo Montage 5		

# R&R program relaxing, fun

Sgt. Sean Kimmons  
25th ID (L) Public Affairs

CAMP AS SAYLIYAH, Qatar – A four-day pass program to the country of Qatar is helping deployed Soldiers rest and recuperate before returning to duties in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. The program is based out of Camp As Sayliyah, which is home to Headquarters, U.S. Central Command (Forward). Soldiers on the four-day pass are welcome to enjoy the leisure activities and facilities located at the camp.

“Here, Soldiers will not have to deal with the combat stress, hectic schedules they are subjected to in Iraq and Afghanistan,” said Spc. Joshua Rogers, a MWR specialist.

The camp offers a movie theater, gift shops, day spa, an Olympic-sized swimming pool and many restaurants including a Chili’s to dine in.

Another facility is the Top-off Night Club, open from 6 p.m. to 12 a.m. At the club, Soldiers can drink alcoholic beverages on a three-drink limit that is strictly enforced.

The drinks are a hard-earned treat to many of the deployed Soldiers who haven’t tasted a drop of alcohol in months.

A United Services Organization room, where Soldiers can watch movies, enjoy their favorite video games, surf the Internet and call home using DSN telephones is also available to Soldiers.

To give Soldiers a chance to enjoy Qatar’s culture and activities, the pass program also has off-post venues.

There are dinner cruises, small excursions, fishing trips, water sports, cultural tours and desert safari trips that Soldiers can go on. Also, there is a sponsorship program and a Family Friends Host program Soldiers can sign up for.

On a desert safari trip



Sgt. Sean Kimmons

**Sgt. Jerum Madarang, a military policeman with 127th MP Co., 89th MP Bde., looks out into the Persian Gulf while on the Desert Safari trip on Oct. 25.**

experienced local drivers took the Soldiers across sand dunes and then stopped at a campsite along the Persian Gulf shoreline.

Soldiers were invited to eat a traditional Arabic meal, ski down a sand dune slope, play sand volleyball and swim in the Persian Gulf.

“The desert trip really surprised me ... to drive down 100-foot sand dunes with 40-degree slopes was really exciting,” said Spc. Jinzhe Li, a paralegal specialist with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division (Light).

During off-post trips to Qatar’s capitol city, Doha, Soldiers frequently travel to the City Centre Shopping Complex in search of souvenirs.

The complex is similar to American malls and sells many similar items found there.

Another popular site is the Gold Souk, where gold and silver can be purchased sometimes three times less than in the United States. The Gold Souk reminds people of a city of gold as they walk in between the gleaming, glittering treasures of gold and decorative

items hanging in windows of the many jewelry stores.

Doha is a rich, distinctive city with uniquely structured buildings. The country of Qatar is a peninsula



Sgt. Sean Kimmons

**A Soldier skis down a sand dune slope as part of the Desert Safari trip during his four-day Qatar pass on Oct. 25.**

stretching out from Saudi Arabia into the Persian Gulf that is slightly smaller than Connecticut but has the third most natural gas reserves in the world.

Two students who were happy to be out of school and outdoors were 18-year-old seniors Kuulei Ka-Ne and Albert Joseph.

“I like it, it’s a good experience,” Ka-Ne said. “It has to do

# Students planting a legacy at Pohakuloa

By Bob McElroy  
PTA Public Affairs

POHAKULOA TRAINING AREA, Hawaii – Several members of the Ka’u High School Future Farmers of America visited the Saddle Region here this week and left behind a legacy of their visit – hundreds of newly-planted endangered plants.

Led by advisor Terence Moniz and PTA’s integrated training area manager Dave Faucette, 12 high school students planted several species along the side of the new Saddle Road and in two of PTA’s training areas.

Another goal of the trip was to collect seeds from endangered plants to bring back and propagate in their school’s greenhouse.

Moniz said that funds for the trip and the greenhouse came largely from a \$20,000 Carl Perkins grant awarded to Ka’u High School for the greenhouse, equipment, supplies and tutors.

The Ka’u FFA students also received support from the Big Island Bird Hunters Association, of which Moniz is a member. Coincidentally, it was through members of the Bird Hunters Association that Moniz heard of Faucette and the work he does at PTA.

Moniz noted that in addition to doing something good for the community, the project and others like it help students when they apply to colleges.

Besides planting native or endemic species of plants in the area, Moniz said he had other goals in mind when he and Faucette planned the trip; one was to expose students to the unique climate and environment in the Saddle Region.

“The kids are excited to be seeing a mountain dry-land forest,” Moniz said.

Two students who were happy to be out of school and outdoors were 18-year-old seniors Kuulei Ka-Ne and Albert Joseph.

“My intent as a teacher is to get the kids exposed to the community; I want them to be known as preservationists.”



Bob McElroy

**Ka’u High School senior and Future Farmers of America member Kuulei Ka-Ne plants native grass along Saddle Road at PTA on the Big Island.**

with everything natural; it’s something I can take on in the future.”

Ka-Ne said she plans to attend Hawaii Community College after graduating from high school. Although she’s enjoying being in FFA, she has no plans to become a farmer and instead plans to become a nursing assistant.

Joseph has been a FFA member for four years and just finished a term as state treasurer of the Hawaii FFA. For him, FFA has offered the chance to learn about leadership and nature.

FFA also provided Joseph the chance to compete on the state level. Last year he placed second in the plant-identification competition.

Ninth-grader Sarah Chow shared Ka-Ne’s and Joseph’s excitement at being in a new environment.

“It’s nice here, great scenery and weather,” Chow said. “It’s also good for job experience and community service,” she said.

Chow, Ka-Ne, Joseph and the other students on the trip also shared a commitment to community service, a seed Moniz planted and has nurtured.

“My intent as a teacher is to get the kids exposed to the community; I want them to be known as preservationists.”

# Tropic Lightning Academy seeks qualified instructors

By Nadja Gassert-Depape  
Contributing Writer

Tropic Lightning Academy is an Army-mandated reintegration program that works with Soldiers and their families to facilitate a stress-free reunion process. Classes and seminars include, among others, anger management, money management, single parent workshops, communication with children, marriage communication and divorce recovery.

Capitol City Rehabilitation Group is seeking qualified candidates to teach classes and seminars as part of Tropic Lightning Academy to 25th Infantry Division (Light) Soldiers.

Instructor training for this will be Dec. 6-15, while Tropic Lightning Academy will occur in three sessions: 1. Feb. 7-18, 2005; 2. Tentatively scheduled for the beginning of March 2005; and 3. As of yet tentatively

scheduled for June or July 2005.

Instructors will be contracted by Capitol City Rehab and paid for attendance at the instructor training, as well as for contact hours taught in Tropic Lightning Academy. The rate of pay is \$47.22 per hour.

Instructors may teach up to eight hours a day, part-time and full-time. Classes and seminars will be held in the morning, afternoon and evening.

Qualified master’s degree-level professionals with a background in the behavioral sciences, theology and pastoral care, or related discipline may contact Gene Tyson, project manager, at 512-556-6702 or www.tyson-scorners.org to apply. Previous military experience, whether as a spouse or active duty Soldier, is a plus.

Qualified candidates will be contacted beginning Nov. 29. Interviews will be conducted locally.

# Home soon; But who’s counting the days?

By Michele Adams-Thompson  
Contributing Writer

Is anyone else feeling reality biting them to read this headline? The month before the Soldier gets home is its own special phase of what we go through with deployment. Time to take notes from the many military families who’ve already traversed this tricky terrain; here are some of their lessons.

No one is surprised this month is full of excitement and anticipation – the kind that keeps you “smiley-faced” all over. That’s the face we put on it, right? We don’t go around being too transparent about our doubts, however. And here’s the thing: everyone has them. Those niggling thoughts tugging at the edge of our hearts may be fleeting, but they’re there.

It’s natural to wonder how learning to live apart for a year is going to have changed us. Hesitation and nervousness alongside excitement and happy anticipation are

the natural mix of emotions during this time. We’ve developed a stronger sense of ourselves in this year and our Soldier has too.

We wonder if he’ll like how we’ve done things or understand the changes we’ve needed to make. He’s wondering if we’re still proud of him and what we expect from him when he gets back. Will he think I’ve saved enough of the extra money? Will I have to give up some independence? How will it all come together again?

Some who were struggling in their relationship before the deployment hope the separation will somehow help. It won’t; if your relationship needed work before the deployment, that work will be waiting for you at the end of it. Deployments don’t magically fix unhappy marriages or automatically hurt solid ones. The issues that were brewing when your Soldier left have had time to foment, so be realistic and patient about working on them.

READY 4 REUNION

Decision-making gets tougher the last month out. Suddenly we realize the things we’re deciding today will be obvious to our Soldier when he gets home. It’s not that we were ignoring this all year, but that our focus in the middle of deployment is different from the final stages.

My husband thinks time spent in the yard is rejuvenating – a concept foreign to me. While he’s been gone, I’ve done well to keep the Hawaiian rain forest around my quarters beat back enough so the humans and canines that live here can get in and out of the doors. I haven’t received a notice from the installation that my yard was unacceptably overgrown, so I guess this has worked.

But realizing he’ll be eyeballing this yard very soon now, it’s looking different to

me somehow. I better wrap up this column and get out the hedge trimmer today.

And then there’s the 30-day outburst of energy. All that weight we were going to lose, all the boxes we were going to go through, all the special projects we were going to take up ... it’s down to the wire now and this month gets top billing for being a crazy-busy month of frenzy.

But the last thing you want is to be worn out when you meet his plane. Pace yourself! Some of the things you planned to do may have to wait for the next deployment - they promise more of them you know. Hum, maybe I will just do the bush trimming and leave the tree felling to the experts.

Check out the Ready 4 Reunion workshop DVDs coming to your mailbox soon and the next workshop is Nov. 10 at the Nehelani, Schofield Barracks. For details call ACS at 655-2400. And don’t forget to check out www.hoah4health.com/deployment/familymatters.

# Soldiers take gold, bronze at 48th annual CISM boxing championships

By Tanja Linton  
Army News Service

FORT HUACHUCA, Ariz. – Team USA filled their coffers with precious metal of three different varieties -- claiming gold, silver and bronze medals at the final day of the 48th annual Conseil International du Sport Militaire world military boxing championships, Oct. 30, at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

It was the first time in recent memory that a U.S. boxer had earned a medal of any color in the CISM boxing championships.

Army 2nd Lt. Boyd Melson of Fort Carson, Colo., took the gold in the 69-kilogram weight class in front of a cheering crowd that included his father at Huachuca's Barnes Field House. Melson outpointed Uzbekistan's Elshod Rasulov, 20-14, to win the championship.

Marine Corps Sgt. Eric Canales, of Camp LeJeune, N.C., took on Dilshod Mahmudov of Uzbekistan in the 64-kg weight class. Canales lost on points, 33-18, leaving him with the silver medal.

Army Sgt. Miguel Albares lost his 54-kg bout in the semi-finals Oct. 28, but still

brought home a bronze medal.

The last day of boxing included the second knockout of the championships from Robert Kramberger of Slovenia. The championship closed when the CISM flag was lowered and handed to the South African delegation, which will host the 49th annual CISM boxing championship in 2005.

Fort Huachuca has a long boxing tradition and is the home of Army boxing. That tradition continues when Arizona's largest military installation will once again host the All-Army Boxing Championships Jan. 25-29, 2005 and the Armed Forces Boxing Championships Feb. 14-18, 2005.



Beth Davie  
**Boyd Melson wins the gold in the 69-kilogram weight class of the CISM boxing championships Oct. 30 at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.**

## Pros partner with CDC for smoke-free sports

Center for Disease Control and Prevention  
[www.cdc.gov](http://www.cdc.gov)

The popularity of youth sports in the United States continues to explode. That is why sports activities are great ways to reach our nation's young people with information about how to make important health decisions related to tobacco use, physical activity and good nutrition.

If current youth tobacco use trends continue, five million of today's young people will die of tobacco-related diseases. Nearly all first-time use of tobacco occurs before high school graduation, which suggests that if kept tobacco-free, most youth will never start using tobacco.

Many high-profile athletes and coaches have joined the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's tobacco-free sports movement. CDC is proud to have on its winning team such stars as Sammy Sosa, Jackie Chan, international skateboarder, Tony Hawk, as well as olympic gold medalists and world record holders Stacy Dragica (pole vault) and Picabo Street (alpine skiing).

Agencies and organizations that support the tobacco-free sports movement include the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), World Health Organization (WHO), National Cancer Institute, National Clearinghouse for Alcohol and Drug Information, National SAFE KIDS Campaign, International Olympic Committee, Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA), and many other sports leagues and youth organizations.

Because of this strong support, the tobacco-free sports movement is gaining momentum in many different sports arenas.

The SmokeFree Soccer program recently went global when CDC teamed up with WHO and FIFA to promote worldwide, tobacco-free messages. Women and men soccer stars from the United States, Australia, Brazil, China, and Canada have appeared in posters to show their support for the program.

A Smoke-Free Soccer initiative has been launched by the South African Football Association (SAFA) and World Health

Organization (WHO). SAFA is using soccer as a platform to promote a healthy lifestyle among its players and the public. The South African Ministry of Health now has a mission to make all sports in their country tobacco-free.

CDC and World Health Organization (WHO) are worked towards a tobacco-free 2002 Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) World Cup in Korea and Japan, which took place on World No-Tobacco Day, May 31, 2002. The theme for World No-Tobacco Day is "Tobacco-Free Sports."

All venues and participants in the Sydney Olympic Games (2000) were smoke-free, and messages about tobacco-free and healthy lifestyles were promoted throughout the event.

The 2002 Olympic and Paralympic Winter Games in Salt Lake City was tobacco-free and promoted healthy lifestyle messages targeting young people.

CDC welcomes your participation in the effort to promote sports participation as a healthy and positive alternative to tobacco use.

## Chronic disease problem

By Hooah4Health  
[hooah4health.com](http://hooah4health.com)

Chronic disease and its behavior-related precursors are rapidly becoming entrenched and poised to exact a heavy toll in every state across the country. A very short list of chronic diseases and behaviors that predispose people to developing these diseases, are more destructive than their highly touted infectious disease counterparts in terms of current and emerging morbidity, mortality and financial burden. Behaviors and circumstances that predispose Americans to heart disease, diabetes, and cancer are rampant and yet efforts to prevent these problems are poorly resourced and receive little attention. Approximately 5 percent of the over one trillion dollars spent on health care is directed to population-wide efforts to improve health while 95 percent of health care dollars are spent on direct medical care services (McGinnis, Williams-Russo, & Knickman, 2002).

### Leading Killers

While absent from the morning paper's headlines, about 40 percent of deaths are attributed to behaviors that are modifiable (McGinnis et al., 2002). Today, the nation's leading killers are largely the result of health-damaging behaviors (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention [CDC], 2002, p. vii).

For example, tobacco use, accounting for over 400,000 deaths per year, is the leading single contributor to mortality. Obesity, in American children and adults, is epidemic with the prevalence of obesity in adults increasing by over 50 percent between 1980 and 1994 and second only to tobacco use in cause of death. Illustrating the "proverbial ticking time bomb," 60 percent of children aged 5 to 10 already have at least one risk factor for cardiovascular disease. Reflecting on these and other statistics, a leading public health expert starkly notes: "Because treating everyone affected by obesity will bankrupt the health care system, our only realistic option is to invest in obesity prevention" (Dietz, 2000, p. 2).

It isn't any surprise then that surfing television channels reveals infomercials focused on diet books, exercise equipment, and fat-decreasing potions. Enterprising individuals and companies have identified and targeted this rapidly growing market. Policymakers and, more importantly, health care professionals have been less successful at drawing attention and supporting efforts to eliminate behavior that predisposes people to need the kinds of equipment being hawked across the airwaves.

### Redirecting Resources

Policymakers and health care providers must recognize the drain of preventable illness and analyze how to redirect resources to diminish demand. For example, as we search the horizon for answers to ensuring an adequate supply of nurses for the nation, are we equally intent on examining the drivers of demand for nursing and health care? Obviously, attending to behavior change in communities across the country won't address nursing workforce problems today. But it is exactly this investment that is needed now to dampen demand when projections begin to forecast the worst scenarios.

### Policy Efforts to Address Chronic Disease

While both sedentary and nonsedentary Americans have been provided with almost weekly updates from public officials and the media on threats to their health and well-being, such as West Nile virus and bioterrorism, unreported yet important efforts are underway to engage state policymakers and other key stakeholders to develop much needed policy-driven action plans targeting chronic disease prevention.

Policymaker attention can be obtained when they learn and understand cost implications of expensive illnesses. Considering just one illness alone can quickly make the case. According to the CDC, diabetes, the most costly chronic illness, "accounts for over \$105 billion annually in health care costs...and is responsible for 25percent of all Medicare expenditures" (Cornell, 2002, p. 1).



Sgt. Kendrick Washington

**Army runner finishes strong at Army 10-Miler.**

## Soldiers get 2nd in Army 10-Miler

By Sgt. Kendrick Washington  
25th ID (L) Public Affairs

WASHINGTON – Weather in the 40s and a constant drizzling rain did very little to discourage the more than 13,000 runners that showed up here for this year's 20th Annual Army Ten-Miler Race.

U.S. Army Hawaii runners along with members of the U.S. Army, Pacific participated in the race with the Sgt. Maj. Team taking 2nd place in the master's division.

This year's race was especially unique for USARHAW because half of the team arrived from their forward deployed base in Afghanistan.

"I think its very important that even though we're deployed we make a show of force during the run to show that no matter what's going on in the world we cannot be deterred," said Capt. Heidi Brockman Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 25th Infantry Division (Light).

Brockman also noted the difficulties of training for a race in Afghanistan.

"It was difficult to train for a ten-miler because we didn't have a ten-mile course to run, we did a lot of our training on a one-sixth-mile track," he said.

Although the train up for the race was difficult, the Afghanistan team said they wouldn't have missed the race for anything.

The members of the 2nd place Sgt. Maj. team were Mark Farley, Brandon Gangstad, Ed Baumgartner, Timothy Grant, Michael Gertin, Raymond Arnold, Phillip Douglas and Ben Cavazos.

## ADA crushes MPs 20-0; 725th over Finance

By 1st Lt. Kevin A. McQueary  
Contributing Writer

A torrential downpour Monday night forced postponement of scheduled football games until next week, but Wednesday's games started out with a strong defensive battle between "Underestimated" 125th Finance Battalion and the 725th Main Support Battalion.

MSB received first and began their initial drive near midfield. Two quick passes put them first and goal, followed by another putting them five yards away from pay dirt. But Finance's coverage held tight and after two incompletes and a knock-down at the line of scrimmage, they took over on downs.

Finance came back impressively, earning two first downs on consecutive plays that put them in MSB territory. The next series was not so good, and after failing to gain ground Finance was forced to punt.

A friendly bounce off the punt pinned MSB with their backs to their goal line. A holding call on first down, followed by a botched fake handoff

that resulted in a fumble put MSB back behind their two-yard line. Smelling "blood," Finance came at them with an all-out blitz and nailed their quarterback for a safety.

The ensuing free kick gave Finance the ball at about their 25. They got greedy on 1st down, and MSB took advantage of a slow-to-develop long pass and ran the interception back to their twenty-five.

Finance denied them three times, but a convincing fake run left allowed the QB running right to find an open receiver for a score (conversion failed.) Finance's following drive was cut short on downs, but MSB failed to capitalize before time expired for the half.

Finance's defense came alive in the second half, cutting MSB's first two drives short on downs and an interception; however, their offense couldn't produce, and despite having first and goal at the three, they botched the opportunity with consecutive penalties followed by an interception in the end zone.

Newly invigorated, MSB drove steadily toward another score. Third

down and goal to go, the game was called on time. Final score: MSB 6, Finance 2.

The 1st Bn., 62nd Air Defense Artillery took on the 25th Military Police in the second match-up the night.

ADA came out swinging, making big yardage on a run-left-reverse-right-pass-left that left the MPs wondering what happened. One good turn deserves another, and so ADA followed with the exact same play for six (conversion good.)

The MPs stumbled out the gate with a penalty for an illegal block and lost more yards courtesy of a sack.

The MPs broke into ADA territory on a QB-keeper, but turned over on their next set of downs.

ADA hammered right back on first down with a deep pass putting them first and goal at the ten. An option left on second down brought them to within three, and they closed the deal with a QB sneak (conversion failed.)

Again the MPs bungled their drive, opening with a fumble (recovered) and then throwing an interception on third down. The MPs came

back aggressively on defense, sacking ADA on first down. They came back hard again on second, and a high snap gave opportunity for another sack but ADA's QB somehow scrambled clear enough to chuck a pass forty-five yards for a TD (conversion good.)

The MPs opened their drive with an incompletion, followed by a flurry of flags on second down. Once the referees had finished conferring, it was first down shy of midfield for the MPs. After a sack set them back to their 30, the MPs answered back with a deep floater that bounced off two defenders before winding up in an MP receiver's hands; first down and goal to go.

A run right gained another five, and then a pass interference call put them within ten with four more downs. The MPs finally scored with a quick pass to a wide-open receiver up the middle, but the pass was dropped. After a holding penalty set them back to the twenty, their hopes were dashed by an interception in the end zone, which the defender inexplicably ran out to the five.

Final score: ADA 20, MP 0.



Left: Kyle Johnson, as one of the three wise men, tries the ring toss for soda while (right) Blaine Rideaux joins the cake walk at AMRs Hallelujah Night Oct. 31.



2nd Lt. Kimberly Luft

## An alternative to trick or treating

By 2nd Lt. Kimberly Luft  
17th CSB

More than 100 people showed up at the Aliamanu Military Reservation chapel for "Hallelujah Night," as an alternative to the usual trick or treating. The spiritually-oriented, two-hour event provided prizes, games, and candy.

Hallelujah Night was open to toddlers, children, pre-teens, teens, and other family members. Participants in the program were encouraged to dress-up in Biblical themes although a "vampire" or two were allowed to participate as well. They were then arranged according to age group and awards were given at the end of the night

for the best costumes.

"Hallelujah Night" was formed for Christians not comfortable or interested in trick or treating. We provide a safe place for the children to go every year," said Brandy Cruz, event coordinator.

"We wanted to make a twist on Halloween and change it to Hallelujah so we could instead focus on God's grace and goodness," said event coordinator Chaplain (Capt.) Tom Faichney.

Children enjoyed a variety of games to include a cake-walk and ring-toss. Chapel members provided prizes, music, and fellowship designed to enhance morale, provide spiritual food for thought, and help families create a lasting memory.

## Soldiers, hobbyists take a step into medieval times

By Spc. Charles Hayes  
Staff Writer

The group of men dressed smartly in elaborate renaissance attire dons their homemade armor in preparation for the battle. Some are 25th Infantry Division (Light) Soldiers, others are hobbyists, but they all belong to a little known organization committed to the research and re-creation of medieval time.

The Society for Creative Anachronism is an educational organization dedicated to the research and re-creation of medieval and Renaissance culture: arts, sciences, combat, speech, dress, and courtly manners – all areas of everyday life.

"To do this, you have to learn about the history of who you want to be. So this is a good learning hobby," said Claudio DiBartoloneo.

"Members create a 'persona,' a personal character from a specific historic time and place, which the member then becomes for our events. The persona must be a character that would have existed between 750 and 1650 at the fall of the Roman empire. When you choose your name, it has to be documented," said DiBartoloneo. "The persona that I go by is THLord Claudius DiBartoloneo. I merely translated my name in Latin."

The SCA has grown from a small backyard tournament in 1965 to an international network of more than 30,000 members, organized into 17 kingdoms spanning North America, Europe, Australia, New Zealand, and the Far East.

Some members of the SCA devote much of their time in the organization to the research and re-creation of specific arts and crafts. Areas of interest are as



Spc. Charles Hayes

Sgt. 1st Class Mullen and his son Joshua reenact battles from the Middle Ages at the Castle Hospital Park.

varied as was medieval culture: heraldry, knighthood, manuscript illumination and calligraphy, archery, armor making, costume, jewelry making, needle craft, theatre, poetry, dancing, singing, cooking, brewing, equestrian arts and much more.

"Unlike a renaissance fair where it is all costumes and play acting, everything we do is real," said Sgt. 1st Class Larry Mullen from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 25th Inf. Div. (Light).

"I have participated in Germany, Kentucky, Alaska, and now here in Hawaii. It has always been a lot of fun," said Mullen. "I got involved because it is fun and safe. I stopped for a while, but my sons encouraged me to get back involved and we did – as a family. A lot of the guys

involved are Soldiers, considering there are a lot of the groups around military posts."

"Each fighter makes their own armor. The average time to make armor is about three months or longer, depending on how elaborate you make it," said DiBartoloneo.

The events are generally for participation and learning purposes. However, the SCA does occasionally offer events and performances for spectators. On request, the SCA even offers demonstrations of medieval fighting, dancing, music, theatre, and other activities for schools and different organizations. For more information regarding these events log onto [www.geocities.com/Athens/Acropolis/9097](http://www.geocities.com/Athens/Acropolis/9097) or call Rose Ruhr at 592-2642.