

# ANACONDA TIMES

NOVEMBER 22, 2006

PROUDLY SERVING LSA ANACONDA



Vol. 3, Issue 46

## Taking Charge

### Iraqi Army's 1st MTR gains authority

Page 8, 9

## Fore!

### Soldiers build golf driving range

Page 2

## Send your gifts home right now

by Spc. Alexandra Hemmerly-Brown

Anaconda Times Staff Writer

LSA ANACONDA, Iraq - Many holiday gift-givers are guilty of last minute shopping, but deployed servicemembers have to plan ahead in order to meet the postal deadlines by Dec. 25.

Although some deadlines have already passed, such as parcel post, there are a few dates servicemembers can still meet to ensure packages reach their loved ones in time.

Those in Iraq sending packages to the states must send them by Dec. 2 for parcel airlift mail, Dec. 4 for priority and first class mail.

"During Christmastime, everyone is sending mail, so the system is slower than usual," said Air Force Staff Sgt. Ted R. Braxton of Jennings, La., the assistant custodian of postal effects here with the 732nd Expeditionary Mission Support Group.

Braxton said the slower options such as space available mail might take one or two weeks during normal operations, but during the holidays, delivery time can double.

"You want to get those deadlines," Braxton said.

There are also several items that servicemembers cannot send out of Iraq at any time, and those rules go for the holidays too.

Some objects that cannot be mailed out of country include unexploded ordnance, ammunition, switchblades or uncased knives, liquids, alcohol-based perfumes, aerosol products, and sand.

"People like to send back Iraqi cokes, and they don't realize they can't send liquids," Braxton said.

see Mail, Page 12

# Honoring those who serve

## LSA celebrates Veteran's Day

- Page 6,7,10



Photo by Spc. Amanda Solitario

Spc. Benita Barnes, a cook with the 368th Cargo Transportation Company out of Ft. Story, Va., and a civilian contractor add red food coloring to white rice. The rice was then used to create a large American flag and was spread across the floor of DFAC 1 as part of a Veteran's Day competition Nov. 11.



## "I am an American Soldier."

I am Spc. Heather R. Jeffery, from Prattville, Ala.

32nd Multifunctional Medical Battalion >> Human Resources Specialist



# Soldiers create a slice of home in the desert

by Sgt. Gary A. Witte

*Anaconda Times Staff Writer*

**ALASAD, Iraq** – It's hard to practice your golf swing when you live in a sand trap, but Soldiers of the Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 593th Corps Support Group, have a solution.

Next to the unit's headquarters, former streetlight poles have been bolted to concrete protective barriers in order to hang a shade canopy in the air. Two small Astroturf-covered platforms, which can be moved from 20 to 70 feet away, sit on the ground next to a covered bucket filled with golf balls.

Many staff members have golf clubs in their office, including group paralegal NCO Staff Sgt. Joshua L. Quinton of Seattle,

Wash.

"It's a good release ... It's nice to get out of the office for even 10 minutes to hit a few balls," Quinton said. "It kind of takes you out of this place for a minute."

The driving range was the brainchild of Support Operations Sgt. Maj. Clinton A. Beers of Boise, Idaho, who took inspiration from the driving range nets at golf stores. He saw streetlight poles that had been knocked down by tanks or other vehicles and came up with the idea.

"I love golf," Beers said. "I thought if I could get my hands on a couple of those, I could make it happen."

The initial driving range was completed at the end of September, and with the contributions of a stateside golf business and a former commander, the unit has numerous

clubs and plenty of golf balls.

"We could lose 500 balls in the desert and still have a thousand left," Beers said.

Despite the size of the canopy, which is 40 feet tall by 60 feet wide, they occasionally have a golfer who manages to miss it, but the problem is a rare one, Beers said.

The military doctrine of constantly improving the fighting position has been applied to the driving range. There are plans to have a working streetlight pole installed, which would essentially allow it to be open to golf enthusiasts 24 hours a day.

"Pretty soon we'll mount that and we'll be able to hit balls at night, too," Beers said.

The canopy is raised with a pulley system, which allows it to be lowered during severe weather. If it isn't lowered during high winds, the canopy acts as a sail and billows out of

control, Beers said.

Quinton, who built the platforms and maintains a set of clubs for others to borrow, said they are also thinking about building a small putting green out of concrete in the break area.

Despite the opportunities the driving range offers, Quinton doesn't seem to expect it to take his golf skills to professional levels.

"Hopefully it's maintained what I had before I left, which wasn't very good," he said, smiling.

Likewise, Beers said he hopes to keep his game up as well as his handicap, which stands at eight. To help it along, he recently ordered a custom set of clubs and had them sent here from home.

"I don't have time to do it every day, but I do it when I can," he said.



Staff Sgt. Joshua L. Quinton practices his Golf swing on the driving range built in Al Asad, Iraq. Quinton, a paralegal NCO with the 593rd Corps Support Group's hometown is Seattle Washington. Photo by Sgt. Gary A. Witte

## ANACONDA TIMES

Anaconda Times is authorized for publication by the 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) for the LSA Anaconda community. The contents of the Anaconda Times are unofficial and are not to be considered the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, including the Department of Defense or Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Anaconda Times is a command information newspaper in accordance with Army Regulation 360-1.

Anaconda Times is published weekly by the Stars and Stripes central office, with a circulation of 5,000 papers.

The Public Affairs Office is on New Jersey Ave. in building 4136, DSN 318-829-1234. Anaconda Times, HHC 13th SC(E), APO AE 09391. Web site at [www.mnf-iraq.com/publications\\_theater.htm](http://www.mnf-iraq.com/publications_theater.htm)

Contact Sgt. Gary A. Witte at [gary.witte@balad.iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:gary.witte@balad.iraq.centcom.mil)

### 13th SC(E) Commanding General, Brig. Gen. Michael J. Terry

Chief of the Anaconda Consolidated Press Center

Maj. Jay Adams

[jay.adams@balad.iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:jay.adams@balad.iraq.centcom.mil)

### 210th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment Commander

Maj. Kirk Slaughter

[kirk.slaughter@balad.iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:kirk.slaughter@balad.iraq.centcom.mil)

### Print OIC

Capt. Perry Jarmon

[perry.jarmon@balad.iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:perry.jarmon@balad.iraq.centcom.mil)

### Editor

Sgt. Gary A. Witte

[gary.witte@balad.iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:gary.witte@balad.iraq.centcom.mil)

### Copy Editor

Spc. Alexandra Hemmerly-Brown

[alexandra.brown@balad.iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:alexandra.brown@balad.iraq.centcom.mil)

### Layout and Design

Sgt. KaRonda Fleming

[karonda.fleming@balad.iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:karonda.fleming@balad.iraq.centcom.mil)

### Staff Writers

Sgt. Kevin McSwain

[kevin.mcswain@balad.iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:kevin.mcswain@balad.iraq.centcom.mil)

Sgt. Joel F. Gibson

[joel.f.gibson@us.army.mil](mailto:joel.f.gibson@us.army.mil)

Spc. Amanda Solitario

[amanda.solitario@balad.iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:amanda.solitario@balad.iraq.centcom.mil)

### Contributing Public Affairs Offices

332 Air Expeditionary Wing  
36th Combat Aviation Brigade  
402nd Army Field Support Brigade  
411 Engineer Brigade  
164th Corps Support Group  
657th Area Support Group

1/34 Brigade Combat Team  
45th Sustainment Brigade  
82nd Sustainment Brigade  
593rd Corps Support Group  
15th Sustainment Brigade



# Providing dignity for those who have fallen

*Mortuary Affairs ensures proper identification, proper attention on behalf of servicemembers, families*

*"That we here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain." – Gettysburg Address*

by Spc. Alexandra Hemmerly-Brown  
**Anaconda Times Staff Writer**

**LSA ANACONDA, Iraq** - There is one group of Soldiers who deal with loss each time they do their jobs.

The eight Soldiers here of the 111th Quartermaster Company from Fort Lee, N.J. are responsible for processing remains and seeking identification for fallen personnel.

"Dignity, honor, and respect are the keystones of our job," said Spc. Robert B. McIntyre of Texarkana, Texas, a mortuary affairs specialist with the unit.

The occupation of mortuary affairs has come a long way since its conception in the Army. During the Civil War, 42 percent of war casualties were unidentified, compared to a virtual positive identification of 100 percent today. This is thanks to developments made in the field in the past 100 years, according to the U.S. Army Mortuary Affairs Center.

"The goal is no more unknown Soldiers," states the MA Center's Web site.

Soldiers who work in mortuary affairs receive and process the remains of deceased U.S. personnel in all branches of the military, civilians, third country nationals, and local nationals.

They are trained to do this job stateside, but do not normally put their skills into practice except in times of

war or natural disasters, McIntyre said. "It's good to know we are making a difference in families' lives," Clegg said.

Clegg said his aim is to become a medic.

"I plan on being on the side of trying to keep people alive when I get home," he said. "This is not a hard job, but not everyone can do it. It takes a certain mindset."

McIntyre agreed, saying that going through individuals' belongings is the hardest part.

"It's hard on the guys who go through the personal effects," McIntyre said noting that when a mortuary affairs specialist sorts through someone's belongings, such as a wallet or family photos, it makes the process harder because there is a personal connection with the subject.

"Everyone deals with it differently," he said.

McIntyre was called to assist at the Pentagon for three months after the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001.

He said mortuary affairs Soldiers are sometimes asked to lend a hand during national mass casualty events such as the bombing in Oklahoma City, and Hurricane Katrina.

At the Pentagon he was working on a search and recovery team to help assess and process the casualties.

McIntyre said his unit's main priority for U.S. citizens, is to get them back to the States as quickly as possible.

"Very rarely it takes more than 12 hours after they arrive here to get sent to Kuwait," McIntyre said.

The Soldiers' other responsibilities include searching the remains for

explosive devices, doing a physical examination, an inventory of personal effects, and trying to positively identify them.

There are three ways to make a legal identification, said Pfc. Douglas L. Clegg, Jr. from Las Vegas, Nev., also a mortuary affairs specialist.

He said a fingerprint, a DNA test, or a blood test are the official means doctors use to identify the deceased, and since mortuary affairs specialists in the Army are not qualified to do this kind of identification, they simply document all the I.D. material they can find.

The Soldiers collect I.D. information from tattoos, scars, and other defining features, Clegg said.

A case file is generated before the remains are sent to the Theatre Mortuary Evacuation Point in Kuwait.

Once they are received in Kuwait, the remains are processed for final shipment to the Dover Port Mortuary facility in Delaware. The whole process usually lasts about 72 hours, McIntyre said.

When the Soldiers process the remains of Iraqis, such as Iraqi Army and Iraqi police who are brought onto the base, the process is the same, McIntyre said.

"With Iraqi civilians, most of the time the I.D. is unknown," he said.

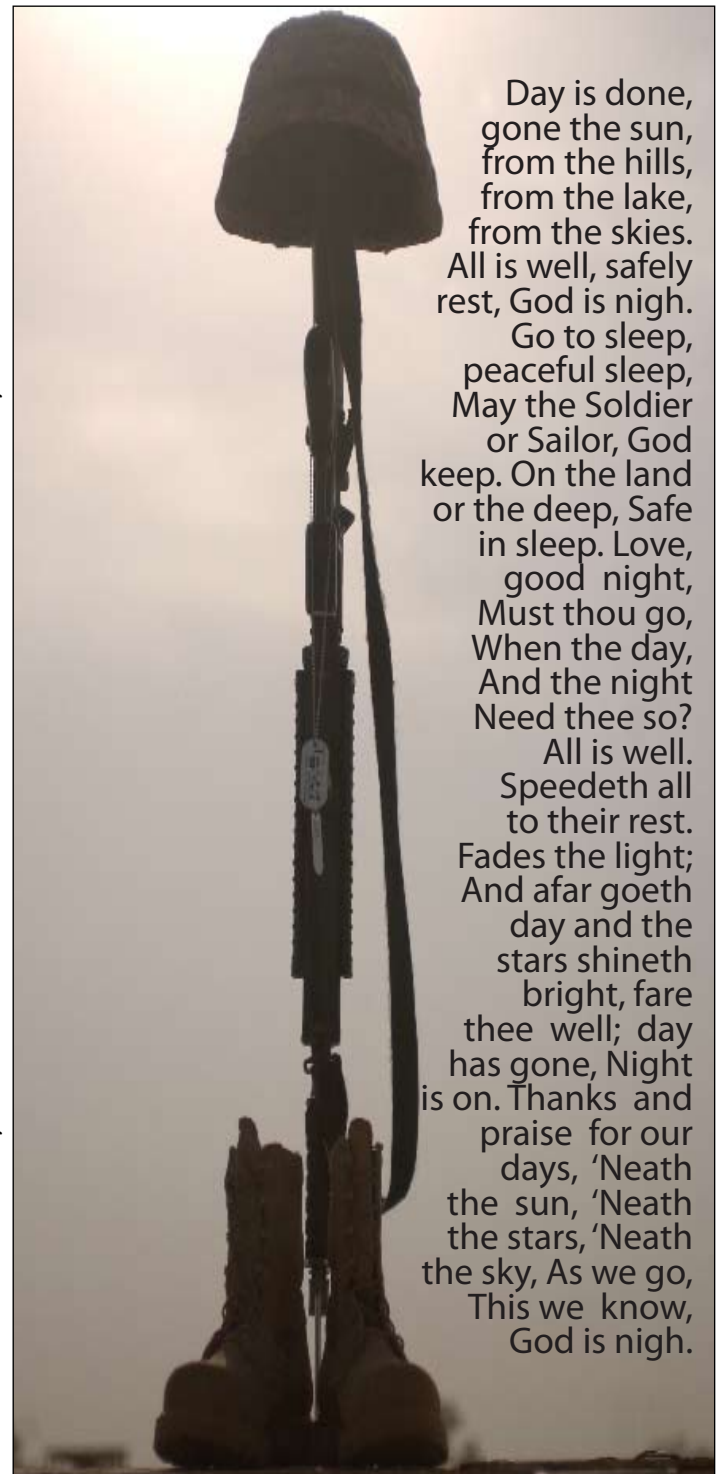
The mortuary affairs team will call Iraqi authorities to notify them of the loss, and they will retrieve their countrymen.

Overall, the Soldiers seem proud to do their job, even though their labors usually go unseen.

"At advanced individual training, my instructor said, 'the day it stops affecting me is the day I'll quit,'" Clegg said. "That will always stick with me."

**"Dignity, honor, and respect are the keystones of our job."**

- Spc. Robert B. McIntyre



Day is done,  
gone the sun,  
from the hills,  
from the lake,  
from the skies.  
All is well, safely  
rest, God is nigh.  
Go to sleep,  
peaceful sleep,  
May the Soldier  
or Sailor, God  
keep. On the land  
or the deep, Safe  
in sleep. Love,  
good night,  
Must thou go,  
When the day,  
And the night  
Need thee so?  
All is well.  
Speedeth all  
to their rest.  
Fades the light;  
And afar goeth  
day and the  
stars shineth  
bright, fare  
thee well; day  
has gone, Night  
is on. Thanks and  
praise for our  
days, 'Neath  
the sun, 'Neath  
the stars, 'Neath  
the sky, As we go,  
This we know,  
God is nigh.

Photo by Spc. Alexandra Hemmerly-Brown  
**A memorial that represents a fallen hero includes the weapon, boots, identification tags, and ballistic helmet.**

## What are you most thankful for while in Iraq?



**Staff Sgt. Manuel Rosa Rivera**  
"I am thankful for my kids and that I am fighting the war against terrorism, instead of them (fighting)."



**Sgt. Lisa Harris**  
"I am thankful for life, which is very valuable and not to be taken for granted."



**Sgt. Joe D. Breedlove**  
"I am thankful for the people I am serving here with, and my family back home for supporting me."



**Spc. Charmaine Butler**  
"I am thankful for my family and friends back home that are taking care of my daughter."



# Servicemembers come together to become American citizens

by Spc. Alexandra Hemmerly-Brown

**Anaconda Times Staff Writer**

**LSA ANACONDA, Iraq** – On the day after Veteran's Day, 44 servicemembers took their Oath of Allegiance during a naturalization ceremony here to become citizens of the country they are fighting for.

As in times of peace, many servicemembers in the American military enlist without being citizens of the country they serve.

"You came from Africa to Asia, from Europe to South America. But today in Iraq—a country struggling for its own freedom—you are all Americans," said Brig. Gen. Michael J. Terry, 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) commanding general, at the ceremony.

Thanks to a law passed by Congress in 2004, naturalizations can now take place outside the United States. Previous to this law's passing, all naturalizations had to occur on the ground in the United States, according to the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

"Over the past four years, more than 20,000 men and women in uniform have become citizens of the United States—the country they serve," Terry said.

Speakers at the ceremony included Terry, Command Sgt. Maj. Terry Fountain, 13th SC (E) sergeant major, and Dr. Emilio T. Gonzalez, director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services.

"Thousands of immigrant troops are making extraordinary sacrifices for America," Gonzalez said. "These men and women have pledged to defend with their lives liberties they have yet to secure for themselves. There is no more fitting way for a grateful nation to show its appreciation than through granting

qualified military servicemembers U.S. citizenship as quickly as possible."

Gonzalez, a former Army colonel and non-U.S.-born citizen, said his position signifies America's uniqueness. He said the fact that a foreign-born citizen is now America's director of citizenship and immigration, is an illustration of the country's distinctive melting-pot quality.

"America is great because of its immigrant community, not in spite of it," Gonzalez said. "In America, people don't swear allegiance to a president or leader, they swear allegiance to a concept."

During Terry's speech, he quoted several of America's past leaders on what it means to be truly American.

"You can go to live in France, but you cannot become a Frenchman. You can go to live in Japan, but you cannot become Japanese. But anyone, from any corner of the world, can come to live in America and be an American," Terry said quoting former President Ronald Reagan.

"Becoming an American can have nothing to do with birth or ancestry" Terry said. "That is because America is an idea, not a race."

The servicemembers who were naturalized came to the ceremony from bases all over Iraq, as well as Afghanistan and Kuwait.

Spc. Simon Muturi, originally from Kenya, serves with the 164<sup>th</sup> Command Support Group, and was among the servicemembers obtaining citizenship. Muturi, who joined the Army in 2000, said he would continue to be a Kenyan at heart, but wanted to become an American.

"America is where it's at," Muturi said. "No other country can give you the opportunities like America can."



Photos by Spc. Alexandra Hemmerly-Brown

**Servicemembers raise their right hands to take their Oaths of Allegiance during the naturalization ceremony here.**

Naturalization candidates have to go through an interview and citizenship process before being eligible to become Americans. Unlike the process stateside, servicemembers can apply for and obtain citizenship without having to wait the minimum time civilians in

the U.S. have to.

"For some of you, this day comes after a long and difficult journey," Terry said. "For all of you, this is a defining moment in your lives. America is now more than your home; America is your country."



**Brig. Gen. Michael J. Terry, 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) commanding general, shakes hands with Spc. Zayvier Moodie with 13th SC (E) after Moodie received his citizenship.**

## Anaconda Safety Tip: Driving in the Rain

### Skids:

You can prevent skids by driving slowly, especially on turns. Steer and brake with a light touch. When you need to stop or slow down, do not brake hard or lock the wheels and risk skidding.

If you do find yourself in a skid, remain calm, ease your foot off the gas, and steer in the direction you want the front of the vehicle to go. For vehicles without anti-lock brakes, avoid using your brakes.

### Hydroplaning:

Hydroplaning happens when the water in front of your tires builds up faster than your vehicle's weight can push it out of the way. The water pressure causes your vehicle to rise up and slide on a thin layer of water between your tires and the road.

To avoid hydroplaning, keep your tires properly inflated, maintain good tread on your tires, and replace them when necessary.

Slow down when roads are wet, and stay away from puddles.

If you find yourself hydroplaning, do not brake or turn suddenly. This could throw your vehicle into a skid.

Ease your foot off the gas until the vehicle slows and you can feel the road again.

If you need to brake, do it gently with light pumping actions.

### The bottom line:

A defensive driver adjusts his or her speed to the wet road conditions in time to avoid having to use any of these measures.



# Combat Stress Control

113th Medical Company (CSC)

# 829-1402

individual counseling by appointment or walk-in

command referrals

services for combat and operationally stressed soldiers

### RELAXATION TECHNIQUES

MONDAY TO SATURDAY  
11 A.M. TO NOON

### STRESS MANAGEMENT

WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY  
10 TO 11 A.M.

### HOME FRONT ISSUES

TUESDAY AND FRIDAY  
4:30 TO 5:30 P.M.

### CONFLICT RESOLUTION

TUESDAY AND FRIDAY  
10 TO 11 A.M.

### ANGER MANAGEMENT

WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY  
1:30 TO 2:30 P.M.

### ANXIETY AWARENESS

TUESDAY AND FRIDAY  
1:30 TO 2:30 P.M.

### SLEEP HYGIENE

MONDAY AND THURSDAY  
4:30 TO 5:30 P.M.

### GOAL SETTING

WEDNESDAY  
4:30 TO 5:30 P.M.

### DEPRESSION AWARENESS

MONDAY AND TUESDAY  
1:30 TO 2:30 P.M.

### COMMUNICATION SKILLS

MONDAY AND THURSDAY  
10 TO 11 A.M.

### WOMEN'S GROUP

THURSDAY  
8 TO 9 P.M.

### COMBAT ADDICTIONS GROUP

WEDNESDAY  
7 TO 8 P.M.

for more information, email:  
melissa.kale@us.army.mil

# Marines at Anaconda stay faithful to birthday ceremony

by Sgt. Gary A. Witte

Anaconda Times Staff Writer

**LSA ANACONDA, Iraq** – More than 100 people helped a handful of active duty Marines honor the 231st birthday of their Corps during a recent ceremony here.

The crowd in the Leader's Room at Dining Facility 4 included a mix of Army and civilian personnel, with many identifying themselves as having previously served in the Marine Corps.

Jim Lockwood, a Kellogg, Brown, & Root truck driver from Redmon, Ore., was in the Marines from 1961 to 1964. The former lance corporal said he appreciates the camaraderie found at the annual event.

"It's a great feeling inside," Lockwood said. "You just have a rapport with all these people, even if you've never met them before."

Marine Lt. Col. Todd Lloyd, the I Marine Expeditionary Force liason officer to the 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), said the ceremony at Logistical Support Area Anaconda was unique, since there are less than a dozen Marines permanently assigned to the base.

"I had no clue how many people were coming," he said, noting the prevalence of civilians and Army personnel.

Guests included Brig. Gen. Michael J. Terry, commanding general of the 13th SC (E), and retired Col. Matthew W. Blackledge, who served in the Marines for 30 years and acted as keynote speaker for the event.

Blackledge, who now works at Logistical Support Area Anaconda as the project manager of the Corps Logistics Support Services of KBR, said the birthday is a special event for all Marines.

"If there are two or more Marines together on 10 November, there is a Marine Corps birthday celebration," he said.

The date marks when the Second Continental Congress resolved in 1775 to raise two battalions of Continental Marines. Blackledge said just as the Marines and other services have fought throughout history to preserve freedom, the fight continues today.

"As long as there is one nation on this earth that is not free, our freedom is threatened," he said. "The war in Iraq is part of a larger global war; the results of which will set the stage for the future of civilization for the 21st century. Each of you is making a significant contribution to history and should be proud of your efforts."

The ceremony included a traditional passing of the cake from the oldest Marine present to the youngest and a reading of the 1921 order by Marine Gen. John A. Lejeune that summarizes the history, mission, and tradition of the Corps.

"The Marine Corps birthday is that time of year when we renew our commitment to the Corps and our country," Lloyd said after serving as master of ceremonies. "It's a special event, whether you spend four years or 30 years in the Marine Corps."

Even those who weren't in the Marine Corps came to the party to help celebrate out of a sense of fellowship.

Army Lt. Col. Stephan J. Picard of Fredricksburg, Va., who works as the executive officer for the 36th Combat Aviation Brigade, said his unit often works with the Marines.

"We're all in this together," he said.



Photo by Sgt. Gary A. Witte  
At right, Lt. Col. Todd Lloyd, liason officer for the I Marine Expeditionary Force to the 13th SC (E), conducts a cake ceremony involving Lance Cpl. Chad Hack of New York, N.Y., the youngest Marine in attendance at the Marine Corps 231st birthday celebration at LSA Anaconda, Balad, Iraq. At center, the oldest marine present, Master Gunnery Sgt. Timothy E. Prather of Manchester, Ga.

## Pearl Harbor Memorial Biathlon

800m Swim & 5K Run

Sunday, December 3rd, 2006  
Sign-In @ 5:15 Event Starts @ 0600

Each participant **MUST** swim a **TIMED 500m** under **16:00 minutes**, timed by the Aquatic Staff.

This is to ensure proper placement in the race!  
There are limited slots, do not wait till the last minute to sign up!!!

**Sign Up at the Indoor Pool NLT**  
**Friday, Dec 1st, 2006**

Contact Meredith Waters at the Indoor Pool if you have any questions.  
Email: Meredith.Waters@KBR.com or DSN 829-1431

**Sponsored by: Redtail 5/6 Council**

## Hip-Hop Dance Classes

Sundays

East Recreation Center

learn the latest dances and enjoy the best in the Hip-Hop Genre

7 p.m. until 11 p.m.



# Veteran's Day patch ceremonies exemplify pride

by Sgt. KaRonda Fleming

*Anaconda Times Staff Writer*

**LSA ANACONDA, Iraq** -Soldiers of the 657th Area Support Group gathered at the Morale, Welfare, and Recreation Center East to receive proper authorization to wear their combat patch during a Veteran's Day observance.

On Nov. 11, Americans all around the world observe Veteran's Day to show pride in the heroism of those who have served in the country's Armed Forces.

It began eighty-eight years ago, on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month, which was then called Armistice Day, the temporary end of hostile fire, between Germany and the allied nations, said Col. Stephen Nakano, commander of the 657th ASG.

World War I ended at that time, and Armistice Day was later named "Veteran's Day to honor American veterans of all wars," he said.

The 657th ASG Soldiers are now authorized to wear the 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) combat patch on their right shoulder sleeve, said Command Sergeant Major Jorge Young, command sergeant major of the 657th ASG.

Young said "You have served with distinction and honor in the United States Army, and were deployed directly in support of the global war on terrorism."

Soldiers of the 657th ASG have taken many challenges head on, Nakano said, and have shown what they are capable of accomplishing.

"Your achievements have not gone unnoticed and I anticipate many more throughout the deployment," Nakano said.

"I serve proudly and so does my father who served in Vietnam," said Sgt. 1st Class John Kaneshiro, a force protection noncommissioned officer with the 657th ASG.

Kaneshiro said his father paid the ultimate sacrifice in his theater of operation. In 1995, his family received the Distinguished Service Cross in his father's honor at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.



Photo by Sgt. KaRonda Fleming

*The color guard for the 657th Area Support Group present arms during the singing of The National Anthem during a Veteran's Day patch ceremony on Nov. 11.*



Photo by Sgt. KaRonda Fleming

*Col. Stephen Nakano, commander of the 657th ASG and Command Sgt. Maj. Jorge Young, command sergeant major of the 657th ASG were the first to affix the 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary)'s patch onto their right shoulder sleeves after receiving authorization to wear the combat patch.*



Photo by Sgt. KaRonda Fleming

*(From left to right) Sgt. 1st Class Stephen Chinen, Lt. Col. Lorie Javier, and Master Sgt. Alan Hiraoka pose in front of a cake with an image of the 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) patch created out of frosting.*



# in servicemembers' heroism past and present

## staff reports

**LSA ANACONDA, Iraq** - Signifying their service in a combat zone, members of the 164th Corps Support Group donned the 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) combat patch Nov. 11.

Veteran's Day added extra meaning to the patch ceremony for the Soldiers of the 164th CSG.

"The combat patch symbolizes the extreme privilege and the great honor to be able to answer our nation's call to duty," said 1st Sgt. Robert Galicia of Ontario, Calif., the unit's first sergeant. "It is an honor for the unit to commemorate and celebrate the sacrifices made by our predecessors in the armed forces in defense of our nation."

The 81st Division began a practice which was unheard of at the beginning of World War I. A distinguishing shoulder patch - a black wildcat on an olive drab circle - appeared on the 81st Infantry Division uniforms; causing other units to protest loudly, said Capt. Perry Jarmon, print OIC with the 210th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, who wears the wildcat patch.

The matter reached the attention of General John J. Pershing, who approved the Wildcat trademark. Moreover, he praised the esprit de corps exhibited by the 81st and suggested that other Army divisions adopt distinctive patches, Jarmon said.

The 13th SC (E) patch is on a yellow octagon with a 1/8 inch blue border 2 1/2 inches in height overall, and has a scarlet saltire throughout surmounted by a blue star of thirteen points fimbriated in yellow.

The octagon reinforced by the saltire refers to the unit's mission of supporting the combat, combat support and combat service support organizations of the Corps. The star symbolizes the many far reaching missions of the

command, and having thirteen points, the star also alludes to its numerical designation.

The octagon is a symbol of regeneration. It alludes to the combat service support functions of the unit as consistently renewing the strength and vigor of the Corps, he said.

Wearing a unit patch on the right shoulder indicates the Soldier has served in a combat zone.

"What better way to pay homage to veterans, past and present, who made the ultimate sacrifice for a cause greater than self?" Galicia said remarking on the ceremony's date.

Command Sgt. Maj. Terry Fountain, the 13th SC (E) sergeant major, congratulated the 164th on their accomplishment of receiving his command's combat patch.

The wear of combat patches is reserved for individuals who were members of a unit while the unit operated in a theater of operation declared as hostile by the Chief of Staff, Army or higher, or Congress passes a Declaration of War.

The units must have actively participated in or supported ground combat operations against hostile forces in which they were

exposed to the threat of enemy action or fire, either directly or indirectly, according to Army regulations.

Col. Megan P. Tatu, commander of the 164th CSG, personally attached the combat patch to each of her Soldier's right shoulder sleeves during the ceremony.

This is the second combat patch for the unit, which arrived at Anaconda on Aug. 12. Its first patch was earned during Operation Enduring Freedom in 2002.

Galicia said the combat patch sends a message to those at home.

"They can rely on us to make the necessary personal sacrifices to answer our nation's call to duty to accomplish our mission on the global war on terrorism," he said.

In light of the holiday, the 164th CSG also conducted a flag-raising program. The unit raised and lowered 11 American flags to send to Veterans of Foreign War's posts across America.

"It's an expression of our gratitude and a way to honor individuals and organizations that support veterans past and present," Galicia said.



**Soldiers with the 164th Corps Support Group stand in formation during a 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) combat patch ceremony, held on Nov. 11.**

Photo by Spc. Alexandra Hemmerly-Brown



Submitted Photo



Photo by Spc. Alexandra Hemmerly-Brown

(Above Left) Soldiers of the 164th CSG fold an American flag each hour on Nov. 11. The unit will send the flags flown here in Iraq back to the states to send to Veterans of Foreign Wars posts across America. (Above Right) Col. Megan P. Tatu, commander of the 164th CSG, personally attached the 13th SC (E) combat patch on each Soldier during a Veteran's Day patch ceremony on Nov. 11.



# Iraqi Army division takes over authority of its motor transport regiment

story and photos by Sgt. Joel F. Gibson

**CAMP HABBANIYAH, Iraq** - The 593rd Corps Support Group transferred authority of the 1st Motor Transport Regiment to the 1st Iraqi Army Division in a ceremony Nov. 2 here.

"A new brother has joined our family," Iraqi Army Maj. Gen. Tariq Abdul Wahab Jasim el Azawi said.

The 593rd CSG, which falls under the 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), advised and trained the Iraqi soldiers to operate independently from coalition forces.

"The ceremony is the official statement that the 1st MTR is trained and ready to be a contributing part of the Iraqi Army," said Capt. Harold Young, III, maintenance advisor for the Transportation Military Transition team.

"The Iraqi Army continues to make progress... and this ceremony is a part of that progress," said U.S. Army Lt Col. David Wilcox, chief of Iraqi security force training cell.

The transition team consists of 20 American servicemembers who have been advising soldiers of the 1st MTR on motor transportation operations.

The soldiers of the 1st MTR started training in February and the ceremony marked the

official attachment of the regiment to the Iraqi Army, said Master Sgt. Charles E. Davis, transition team NCO in charge.

He said the regiment has been conducting missions independent of coalition forces since Oct. 1.

"They are ready," he said. "The 1st MTR is very competent... they have moved supplies for us and we feel confident that they can accomplish supply missions."

With each successful transfer of authority to Iraqi forces, servicemembers help accomplish an overall goal of an independent Iraq.

"Military history tells us that without a plentiful and dependable source of fuel, food, and ammunition, a military force falters," said Wilcox. "The MTR is a much needed part of that capability to the Iraqi Army."

The battalion-sized regiment, led by a lieutenant colonel and a sergeant major, is tasked with the mission to support the 1st Iraqi Army Division with transportation services in the Anbar Province.

"I truly feel they are ready for the challenges ahead," said Col. Richard Burns, 593rd CSG commander. "As fellow logistical experts, it is our mission to bring supplies and transportation assets to servicemembers."

---

"A new brother has joined our family."

- Iraqi Army Maj. Gen. Tariq Abdul Wahab Jasim el Azawi

---



Iraqi soldiers from the 1st Motor Transport Regiment march past observers in a pass and review during the transfer of authority ceremony on Nov. 2 at Camp Habbaniyah.



Maj. Gen. el Azawi takes the 1st MTR's flag from commander 1st MTR Mukadam Abdu Razak as Col. Richard Burns, commander, 593rd CSG looks on.



Iraqi soldiers from the 1st Motor Transport Regiment and Coalition Soldiers stand in formation as their Iraqi Motor Transport Regiment vehicles drive by in the background during the transfer of authority ceremony.



Iraqi soldiers from the 1st MTR and Coalition Soldiers stand in formation.



# Culinary arts used to honor Veterans

## Bread pillars, rice flags put Oasis DFAC on top

by Spc. Amanda Solitario

**Anaconda Times Staff Writer**

**LSA ANACONDA, Iraq** - There are many ways to pay tribute to United States veterans, but the Soldiers working at the dining facilities here took service and honor to a different level.

Patriotic music resounded through the buildings as servicemembers admired the array of decorations and food carvings exhibited at the four main DFACs and Convoy Café as part of a Veteran's Day competition Nov. 11.

"It is for the Soldiers, by the Soldiers," said Master Sgt. Christopher A. Howard, the food service sergeant major for the 13<sup>th</sup> Sustainment Command (Expeditionary).

Howard, from Jacksonville, Fla., said these competitions give the cooks, who are now filling managerial positions and overseeing the contractors, a chance to showcase their talents.

"It brings their morale to another level," he said.

The neutral - colored walls were changed to vivid tones of red, white, and blue. No corner was left out of the festivities. All the chow halls hung streamers and covered the tables with special placemats marking the occasion.

Cakes, some larger than the tables they rested on, were clearly visible from each of the food lines.

"It's all about the military tradition of honoring veterans," said Col. David Cotter, the 13<sup>th</sup> Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) chief of staff. "It's important to take a few minutes in the midst of combat operations to remember the contributions and sacrifices of those who came before us."

DFAC 1, also known as the Oasis, emerged from the competition victorious in the large dining facility category, and DFAC 3, Castle Heights, took the crown in the small category.

Both will be awarded a trophy following the Thanksgiving Day competition. Additionally, each Soldier working in the DFAC will be given a certificate of achievement signed by Brig. Gen. Michael J. Terry, the 13<sup>th</sup> SC (E) commanding general.

"What set DFAC 1 apart from all the others was their teamwork," Howard said. "They had a plan and executed the plan just like rehearsed. Teamwork and communication is the right ingredient to make the perfect victory."

The Oasis flaunted their creativity with various works of tasty art. As

servicemembers entered, they passed a large American flag made from rice spread across the floor before them.

At the table dedicated to Staff Sgt. Keith Matthew Maupin, the Soldier who has been missing since April 2004, a life-sized Soldier made from icing rendered the salute beside the memorial.

The Soldiers spent the last two weeks creating a replica of the flag-raising over Iwo Jima, preparing two ice sculptures, baking a five-tiered cake, and carving a variety of fruits and breads, said Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Rebecca Bigger-Thomas, noncommissioned officer in charge of DFAC 1.

Bigger-Thomas, a native of Normal, Ill., said it was a team effort, and it was their way of honoring past veterans, fallen heroes, and those serving in the military today.

Castle Heights showed off a large ice sculpture in the shape of an eagle, which the Soldiers perched above the fruit arrangements and giant Veteran's Day cake.

Howard said he evaluated the facilities on a variety of things. He said when judging these contests, he likes to walk

**see DFAC, Page 12**



Photos by Spc. Amanda Solitario

**For the Soldier and two civilian contractors who designed a large American flag on the floor of DFAC 1, rice was the product of choice. They used thick food coloring to make the red, white, and blue tones in the flag.**



**(Above Left) Soldiers in DFAC 1 reconstructed the statue of the flag raising over Iwo Jima out of icing. DFAC 1 won first place in the large dining facility category. Soldiers and civilian contractors will be awarded a trophy after Thanksgiving. (Top Right) Master Sgt. Christopher Howard, the 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) food service sergeant major, studies one of the displays at DFAC 4 as part of the Veteran's Day DFAC competition Nov. 11. Howard was one of the two judges for the contest. (Bottom Right) Workers at DFAC 3 place their eagle ice sculpture in the center of the fruit arrangement for the Veteran's Day competition. DFAC 3 won first place in the small dining facility category.**



# Visitors find insight, inspiration from historical site

by Sgt. Gary A. Witte

**Anaconda Times Staff Writer**

**AL ASAD, Iraq** - An oasis can be more than water and trees, especially when it rests in the shade of about 4,000 years of historical and religious tradition.

Visitors, many with religious study groups, regularly come out to the area of green known as Abraham's Oasis. The site lies in the wadi, or valley, that now holds much of Al Asad Air Base.

"This whole area is the third most holy site in Islam," the 593<sup>rd</sup> Corps Support Group Chaplain (Maj.) Daniel R. Petsch said.

According to the Quran and Arabic legend, the oasis served as the campsite of Abraham, patriarch of the Israelites, during his journey from the city of Ur to Cannan, Petsch said. He added that the village was then named Eyen Al Asad, which means "Spring of the Lion."

"It was a long journey for him

to make it to the promised land," he said. "It was more than a 1,000-mile road march."

While the Bible doesn't mention the oasis, the location would make sense, since it is more than likely that Abraham would have traveled along the fertile crescent as he headed north from Ur, Petsch said.

"This whole area is the third most holy site in Islam."

- Chaplain (Maj.) Daniel R. Petsch

"It would be a very logical place to stop," he said. "It's very possible Abraham was standing on the very ground we stand on today."

Petsch said the site had been neglected and was filled with litter and debris until about two years ago, when it became the subject of a large cleanup effort led by Navy Chaplain (Lt.) John Logan.

The oasis, which is fed by an underground spring, now teems with life, including ducks, turtles, fish, and snakes. Nearby is a graveyard for soldiers who died during the seven-year war between Iraq and Iran.

Access to the oasis is now restricted to groups escorted by one of the 15 chaplains on base, who use it as an example of locations visited by biblical figures. Those who go to such places receive insight into the stories they read in scriptures, Petsch said.

"This kind of puts things into perspective," he said.

Chaplains also have to correct many who confuse Abraham's Oasis with Abraham's Well, the site at Beersheba where he dug a well to establish land ownership.

Meanwhile, the military and the chaplains act as stewards for the popular site.

"I think if we see something that needs to be done out here, we would do it," he said. "We feel responsible for it."



Chaplain (Maj.) Daniel R. Petsch is one of the chaplains that provide instructional tours to Abraham's Oasis.

Photo by Sgt. Gary A. Witte

## High school builds connection with Soldiers

### Classroom students talk to Anaconda via live satellite video conference

staff reports

**Editor's note: The following story includes contributions by a West Aurora High School student Andrea Houlihan.**

**LSA ANACONDA, Iraq** - Three Army journalists, speaking at an Oct. 30 live satellite video conference, offered student journalists from West Aurora High School insight into their experiences in Iraq.

The students asked a variety of questions, including some about the weather, food, and lessons learned as Soldiers. Sgt. 1st Class Mark E. Bell, Spc. Amanda J. Solitario, and Spc. Alexandra Hemmerly-Brown of the 210th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment spoke from their office at Logistical Support Area Anaconda.

The Soldiers joked with students during the hour-long conference, but also discussed their jobs and life in the military. Solitario noted the sense of responsibility she has gained since joining the Army.

The conference was made possible using the military Digital Video Imaging Distribution System, which enables troops to transmit live broadcasts from the field.

Many students at West Aurora High have family members currently serving overseas. Sophomore Pat Spoden has a few family

members serving in Iraq. Senior Kirsten Grahn's older sister and West High graduate, Jessie, is currently stationed in Iraq. West High graduates like Mike Montemeyer have joined the armed services.

Teachers and students also sought to contribute to Soldiers through a school-wide project that assembled multiple care packages to be sent to LSA Anaconda. Solitario and Hemmerly-Brown opened two of the packages sent by students during the live conference.

Hemmerly-Brown said it's not just about the contents of the care package that makes it so great.

"Getting a care package is awesome," she said "It's really the support that comes with the packages that is really touching."

Sophomore Laurencia Mendoza said that she felt it necessary to donate, "just to give something back to troops and to give them a piece of home [in order] to bring them happiness." In agreement with Mendoza's opinion, Luis Salines agreed that, "since they are over there fighting, [I should] do my part."

Teacher Jenny McCormick thinks that receiving packages from friends and family "uplifts the Soldiers. It lets them know that we haven't forgotten them ... We are telling them that there are still people back home who care."

McCormick said she hopes that she is sending a message to everyone else: "To make people more aware that a war is going on, and

real people are out there fighting." She hopes to shed a positive light on the Soldiers and what they do.



Students from West Aurora High School, in West Aurora, Ill. ask questions of Soldiers of the 210th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment. Pictured on the screen from left to right are Sgt. 1st Class Mark Bell, Spc. Amanda Solitario, and Spc. Alexandra Hemmerly-Brown.

Special Photo



# Keep an eye on unusual actions around post

by Spc. Amanda Solitario

**Anaconda Times Staff Writer**

**LSA Anaconda, Iraq**—Counterintelligence can be a big task for such a small group.

Just three special agents work at the Anaconda Resident Office which provides general counterintelligence support for this post and 24 other forward operating bases throughout Iraq.

The office opened in August, and houses one out of the five teams spread across the country that deter and detect terrorism aimed at the United States military.

"We are trying to keep enemy intelligence from collecting information on our operations," said James Kearney, special agent in charge. "This includes not only

insurgents, but foreign intelligence agencies as well."

Kearney, a native of Cape Coral, Fla., said the team could not be as effective without the assistance and cooperation of the servicemembers and civilians who live and work on Anaconda.

"The way we really need people to help us is by coming in to the office and reporting suspicious activity," he said. "If they don't report these acts, we can't follow through with the investigations."

Special Agent Amie Snyder, from San Diego, Calif., said it is the job of everyone to report suspicious activity to the office. Since the agents cannot be everywhere at one time, they often rely on others to be their eyes and ears.

Snyder said residents on the base might be helping the enemy without even realizing it.

Whether it is transferring classified material over unsecured internet lines, or telling a local national working on the instillation too much information, Snyder said these actions could be devastating for the military.

Some things servicemembers can do, which greatly reduces sensitive disclosures, are as simple as shredding important documents and being conscious talking about confidential information in a public place, she said.

Some indicators of espionage include taking photographs where classified information is kept, and entering into contracts with officials of a foreign country.

Kearney said reportable activities consist of surveillance of any type, attempting to duplicate badges or uniforms, and theft of

sensitive items.

He noted that if it does not feel right, they should go with their instinct, and let the counterintelligence office handle it from there. Servicemembers should never try to look into the incident themselves, Kearney said.

The agents, who are all American Soldiers, have additional duties as well.

Dressed in civilian clothing, the team gives counterintelligence briefings to units in their area of responsibility. They work very closely with force protection, military police, and unit intelligence officers to get the job done, Kearney said.

"We want people to know we are here to help them," he said.

The office has a list of slides available on the Balad web site.

**If a servicemember needs to report an incident, they can call DSN 318-829-1606 or the SPY hotline at 1-800-225-5779.**

**"If they don't report these acts, we can't follow through with the investigations."**

**- James Kearney**

## DFAC, from Page 10

through the front door to get a feel for the entire internal structure and to get a broad overview of the scene.

Howard said a DFAC lost points if they did not have a consistent theme or if the kitchen was not up to standards. Soldiers needed to demonstrate a clear knowledge of their job and duties.

He said the biggest thing was the

motivational level of the workers, both military and civilian.

"I look for smiles on their faces," Howard said. "If they are happy, they are enjoying their job."

Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Ronald Bobb, from Houston, Texas, the DFAC manager of, the Desert Inn said the time and effort spent on turning the building into a patriotic extravaganza was

not entirely about the competition.

"We wanted to give something to the Soldier," he said. "We just wanted to show our appreciation to the troops."

Cotter, who toured the chow halls throughout the day, acknowledged the fact that dining facilities provide a central location for all the troops to admire the exhibits and reflect on what it means to serve.

Bobb said Veteran's Day leads the way into the holiday season, and he hopes that the atmosphere presented in his DFAC can uplift the spirits of the servicemembers for at least a few hours out of the day.

Howard said this small competition is the stepping-stone for the one on Thanksgiving Day, which is expected to impress everyone on the post.

## Mail, from Page 1

He said if people want to send the cans, they must empty the contents before mailing.

Other items that can be found at the bazaars here cannot be sent via mail such as knives and hookahs. These objects can be mailed in some instances if they are in original wrappings and unused.

According to statistics by the Joint Military Terminal, Kuwait, postal workers in the terminal's 10 post office region processed approximately 2.5 million pounds of incoming and 3 million pounds of outgoing mail in November 2005. A similar load is expected for 2006.

Deadlines for families at home mailing packages to Iraq vary according to geographic location; states on the West coast will need to mail earlier than those on the east because all mail going to Iraq is sent from New York.

The general guideline for those stateside is to send mail 10 days earlier than the suggested deadlines to ensure it is received by Dec. 25.



# Army Reserve Affairs



**Building 4135 DSN: (318) 829-1113**

**LTC Russell D. Rogers**

[russell.rogers@balad.iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:russell.rogers@balad.iraq.centcom.mil)

**SSG Annette Tyler**

[annette.tyler1@balad.iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:annette.tyler1@balad.iraq.centcom.mil)

**SSG Brandon D. Fambro**

[brandon.fambro@balad.iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:brandon.fambro@balad.iraq.centcom.mil)

**SSG Melinda P. Baldwin**

[melinda.baldwin@balad.iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:melinda.baldwin@balad.iraq.centcom.mil)

# LSA ANACONDA RELIGIOUS SCHEDULE

Religious schedule subject to change

## Roman Catholic Mass

Saturday 5 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel

Saturday 8 p.m. Provider Chapel

Sunday 7:30 a.m. Freedom Chapel

Sunday 9 a.m. Tuskegee Chapel

Sunday 5:30 p.m. Provider Chapel

Sunday 11 a.m. Air Force Hospital

Monday - Friday 5 p.m. Tuskegee

## Sacrament of Reconciliation

30 minutes prior to each mass

## Protestant-Contemporary

Sunday 10 a.m. Tuskegee Chapel

Sunday 10 a.m. Town Hall

## Latter Day Saints

Sunday 1 p.m. Provider Chapel

Sunday 4 p.m. Freedom Chapel

Sunday 7 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel

## Church of Christ

Sunday 2 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel

## Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service

Thursday 10:30 a.m. Provider Chapel

## Islamic Prayer

Friday 12:30 p.m. Provider Chapel

## Samoan Congregational Service

Sunday 4 p.m. Provider Chapel

## Friday Shabbat Service

Friday 7 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel

## Eastern Orthodox Prayer Service

Sunday 3:30 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel

## Protestant-Gospel

Sunday, 11 a.m. MWR East Building

Sunday 11:30 a.m. Freedom Chapel

Sunday 2 p.m. Air Force Hospital Chapel

Sunday 7 p.m. Provider Chapel

## Protestant Praise and Worship

Sunday 9 a.m. MWR East Building

Sunday 9 a.m. Eden Chapel

Sunday 7 p.m. Freedom Chapel

Sunday 7:30 p.m. Eden Chapel

Wednesday 7 p.m. Freedom Chapel

## Protestant-Traditional

Sunday 8:15 a.m. Air Force Hospital

Sunday 9:30 a.m. Provider Chapel

Sunday 10 a.m. Freedom Chapel

Sunday 5 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel

Sunday 8:15 p.m. Air Force Hospital

## Non-Denominational

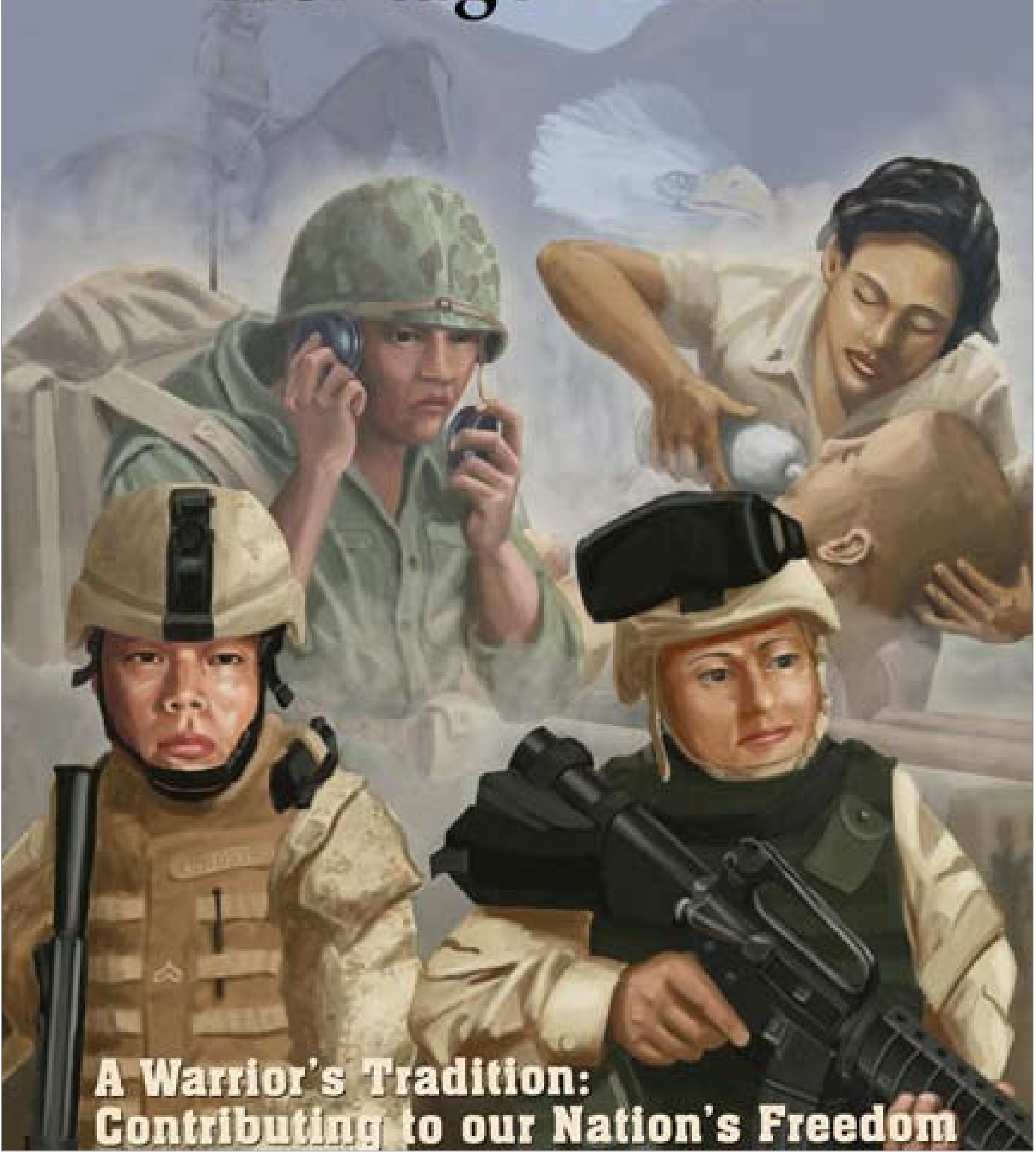
Sunday 9 a.m. Signal Chapel

## Non-Denominational Spanish

Sunday 2 p.m. Freedom Chapel



# National American Indian Heritage Month



**A Warrior's Tradition:  
Contributing to our Nation's Freedom**



**November 23****Aerobics**

6 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.  
East MWR Fitness Center

**Yoga**

6 p.m.  
East MWR Fitness Center

**Boxing**

7:30 to 9 p.m.  
East MWR Fitness Center

**Rock Climbing Class**

8 p.m.  
East MWR Fitness Center

**8-Ball Tourney**

8 p.m.  
West Recreation Center

**Madden '05**

8 p.m.  
West Recreation Center

**9-Ball Tourney**

8 p.m.  
East Rec Center

**DJ Classes**

8 p.m.  
East Rec Center

**November 24****Tae Kwon Do**

7 to 8:30 p.m.  
East MWR Fitness Center

**NOGI Jiu-Jitsu**

9 p.m.  
East MWR Fitness Center

**Level 2 Swim Lessons**

7 p.m.  
Indoor Pool

**Level 1 Swim Lessons**

8 p.m.  
Indoor Pool

# ANACONDA ACTIVITIES

Your one-stop connection to activities around LSA Anaconda  
to add your activity to the event calendar, email [anaconda.times@balad.iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:anaconda.times@balad.iraq.centcom.mil)

**Battlefield Ground**

8 p.m.  
East Rec Center

**November 25****Aerobics**

5:30 p.m.  
East MWR Fitness Center

**Boxing**

7:30 to 9 p.m.  
East MWR Fitness Center

**Chess Tourney**

8 p.m.  
West Recreation Center

**4-4 Volleyball Tourney**

8 p.m.  
West MWR Fitness Center

**Caribbean Dance**

8 p.m.  
East Rec Center

**November 26****Aerobics**

noon to 1 p.m.  
East MWR Fitness Center

**Open Court Volleyball**

6 p.m.  
East MWR Fitness Center

**500m Fins/Kickboard**

9 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.  
Indoor Pool

**Texas Hold'em**

8 p.m.  
West Recreation Center

**Aerobics**

8 p.m.  
West MWR Fitness Center

**Salsa Dance**

8 p.m.  
East Rec Center

**Tae Kwon Do**

7 to 8:30 p.m.  
East MWR Fitness Center

**NOGI Jiu-Jitsu**

9 p.m.  
East MWR Fitness Center

**Level 2 Swim Lessons**

7 p.m.  
Indoor Pool

**Level 1 Swim Lessons**

8 p.m.  
Indoor Pool

**Command & Conquer**

8 p.m.  
West Recreation Center

**Dodgeball Tourney**

8 p.m.  
West MWR Fitness Center

**Texas Hold'em**

8 p.m.  
East Rec Center

**November 27****Aerobics**

5:30 p.m.  
East MWR Fitness Center

**Boxing**

7:30 to 9 p.m.  
East MWR Fitness Center

**100m Butterfly**

10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.  
Indoor Pool

**Spades Tourney**

8 p.m.  
West Recreation Center

**4-4 Volleyball Tourney**

8 p.m.  
West MWR Fitness Center

**Caribbean Dance**

8 p.m.  
East Rec Center

**November 28****Aerobics**

noon to 1 p.m.  
East MWR Fitness Center

**Open Court Volleyball**

6 p.m.  
East MWR Fitness Center

**One-Mile Swim Race**

10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.  
Indoor Pool

**Texas Hold'em**

8 p.m.  
West Recreation Center

**Aerobics**

8 p.m.  
West MWR Fitness Center

**Salsa Dance**

8 p.m.  
East Rec Center

**November 29****Open Court Volleyball**

6 p.m.  
East MWR Fitness Center

**Tae Kwon Do**

7 to 8:30 p.m.  
East MWR Fitness Center

**Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu**

9 p.m.  
East MWR Fitness Center

**Green Bean Karaoke**

8 p.m.  
Green Bean Coffee Shop

**5-5 Basketball Tourney**

8 p.m.  
West MWR Fitness Center

**Poker**

8 p.m.  
East Rec Center

**November 30****Aerobics**

6 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.  
East MWR Fitness Center

**Boxing**

7:30 to 9 p.m.  
East MWR Fitness Center

**Rock Climbing Class**

8 p.m.  
East MWR Fitness Center

**One-Hour Swim-A-Thon**

Two-Person Teams  
5:30 a.m.  
Outdoor Pool

**Jam Session**

8 p.m.  
West Recreation Center

**Aerobics**

8 p.m.  
West MWR Fitness Center

**THE MOTHER OF ALL BATTLES**

**ARMY**

**VS**

**AIR FORCE**

**FLAG FOOTBALL BASKETBALL**

**A THANKSGIVING DAY EXTRAVAGANZA**

VISIT YOUR LOCAL MWR FACILITY FOR MORE INFORMATION

**news.peel**

**anaconda**

**watch it**

**on the**

**Pentagon**

**Channel**



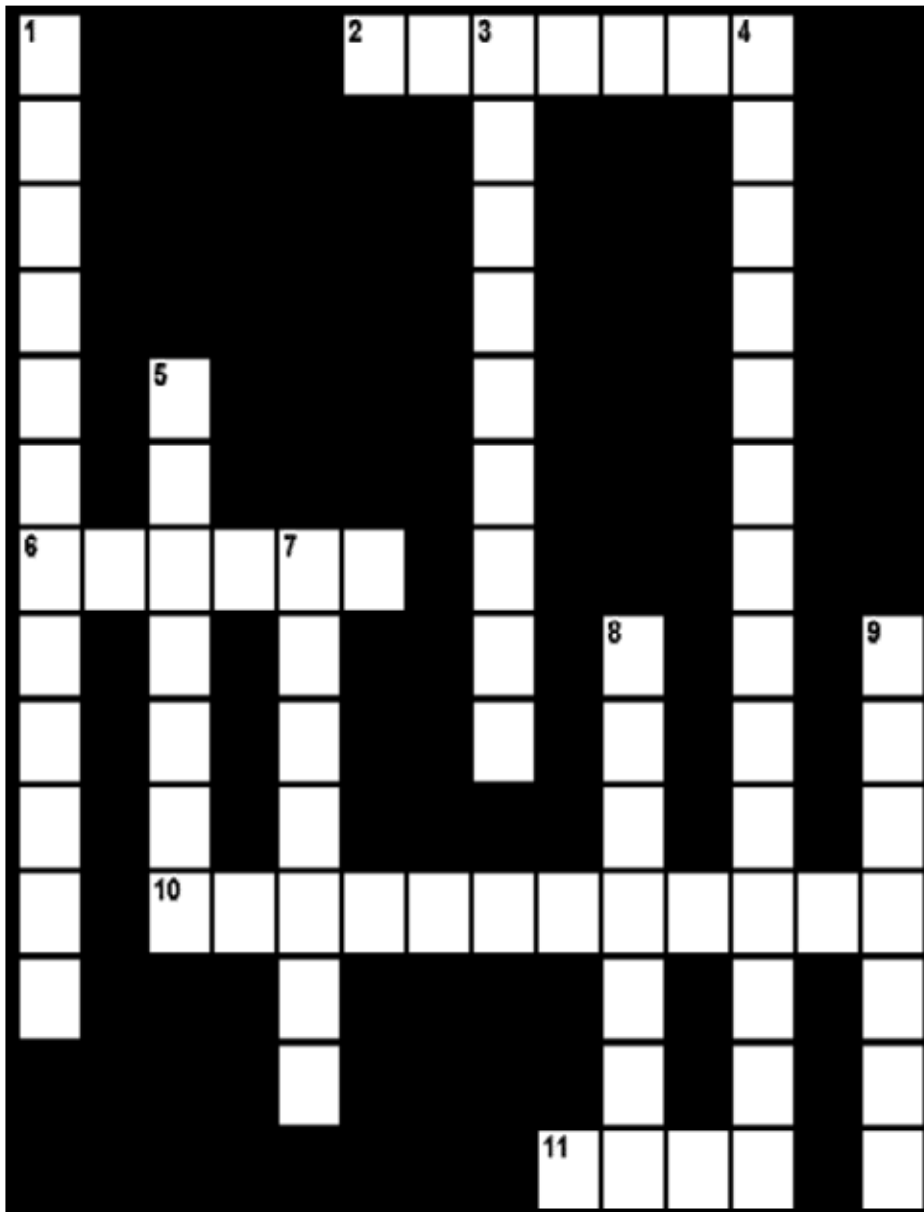
# Thanksgiving Crossword Puzzle

**Across**

- 2. This pie is a Thanksgiving favorite.
- 6. A meat served on Thanksgiving Day.
- 10. A holiday that is celebrated the fourth Thursday in November.
- 11. a yellow vegetable

**Down**

- 1. A boulder in Plymouth supposed to be where the Pilgrims disembarked from the Mayflower.
- 3. The name of the Pilgrim's Ship
- 4. The original people of America.
- 5. The season of gathering crops.
- 7. The country the Pilgrims came from.
- 8. The Pilgrims wanted freedom of \_\_\_\_\_.
- 9. A group of people that came over on the Mayflower



**Jenny**



**Private Murphy**



(Schedule is subject to change)

**SUSTAINER REEL TIME THEATER**

**Wednesday, Nov. 22**  
 5 p.m. The Last Kiss (R)  
 8 p.m. Deja Vu (PG-13)

**Thursday, Nov. 23**  
 5 p.m. Deja Vu (PG-13)  
 8 p.m. Crank (R)

**Friday, Nov. 24**  
 2 p.m. Gridiron Gang (PG-13)  
 5 p.m. Happy Feet (PG)  
 8:30 p.m. Deja Vu (PG-13)

**Saturday, Nov. 25**  
 2 p.m. Happy Feet (PG)  
 5 p.m. Deja Vu (PG-13)  
 8 p.m. The Black Dahlia (R)

**Sunday, Nov. 26**  
 2 p.m. Deja Vu (PG-13)  
 5 p.m. The Covenant (PG-13)  
 8 p.m. Hollywoodland (R)

**Monday, Nov. 27**  
 5 p.m. Happy Feet (PG)  
 8 p.m. The Last Kiss (R)

**Tuesday, Nov. 28**  
 5 p.m. Gridiron Gang (PG-13)  
 8 p.m. Deja Vu (PG-13)

## Beetle Bailey



**Mission:**

Using logic and reasoning to fill the remaining empty cells in the following puzzle with a digit from 1 to 9, such that each digit from 1 to 9 appears. There is exactly one number on each row and column. Each number will appear once in each of the nine delineated 3x3 squares.  
**There is only one solution!**

## Previous Sudoku Solutions

7	2	4	6	3	8	9	5	1
8	1	5	4	2	3	7	3	6
6	9	3	5	1	7	2	1	8
9	4	6	2	7	5	8	1	3
1	7	8	9	4	3	5	6	2
3	5	2	8	6	1	4	9	7
2	3	9	1	8	4	6	7	5
5	8	7	3	9	6	1	2	4
4	6	1	7	5	2	3	8	9

## Anaconda Sudoku

		3	4					2
			9	2		1		
5					9			
4	8			2	7			
7								9
			3	1			5	4
				3				1
			8		9	6		
	2						5	9





(Left) Members of the "Clairmont Crusaders," a team with the 732nd Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron, plays trash volleyball against team "Shake and Bake" with the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs Office. In trash volleyball, whoever ends up with the most trash on their side at the end of the game loses. (Below) Members of "Team Ramrod" with the 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron play a game of knots, in which the team has to link hands a certain way and then untangle themselves without letting go.



# Morale



# Daze

story and photos by Sgt. Gary A. Witte

**LSA ANACONDA, Iraq** – Olympic committee won't be calling anytime soon, but servicemembers practiced some unique skills in a recent competition in the H-6 housing area.

Three-person underwear races, rubber chicken tossing, and trash volleyball were just a few of the events for the Nov. 6 competition, known as Morale Daze.

It was held twice with six-person teams from various units taking part. While just three Air Force teams entered the morning games, nine Air Force teams joined two Army teams for the evening session, organizers said.

The Red Tail Recreation Center manager,

Tech Sgt. Steven Taylor with the 332nd Expeditionary Services Squadron, said his command has already asked that the event be repeated.

"It was a fun, successful event," Taylor said.

The first place teams were the 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron and the 332nd Expeditionary Medical Group, who received small trophies for their efforts.

The games, which were made possible by stateside volunteer donations, were designed to be a fun unit-building exercise and improve communication among team members. The next Morale Daze competition is scheduled for January.



(Left) "Clairmont Crusaders" team members try their hand at three-person underwear racing. Team members have to get into a giant set of underwear and race across the court without tearing it. (Above) 1st Lt. Andrew Cullipher with "Clairmont Crusaders" outraces Senior Airman Joshua G. Mozier with "Shake and Bake" in the tricycle competition.