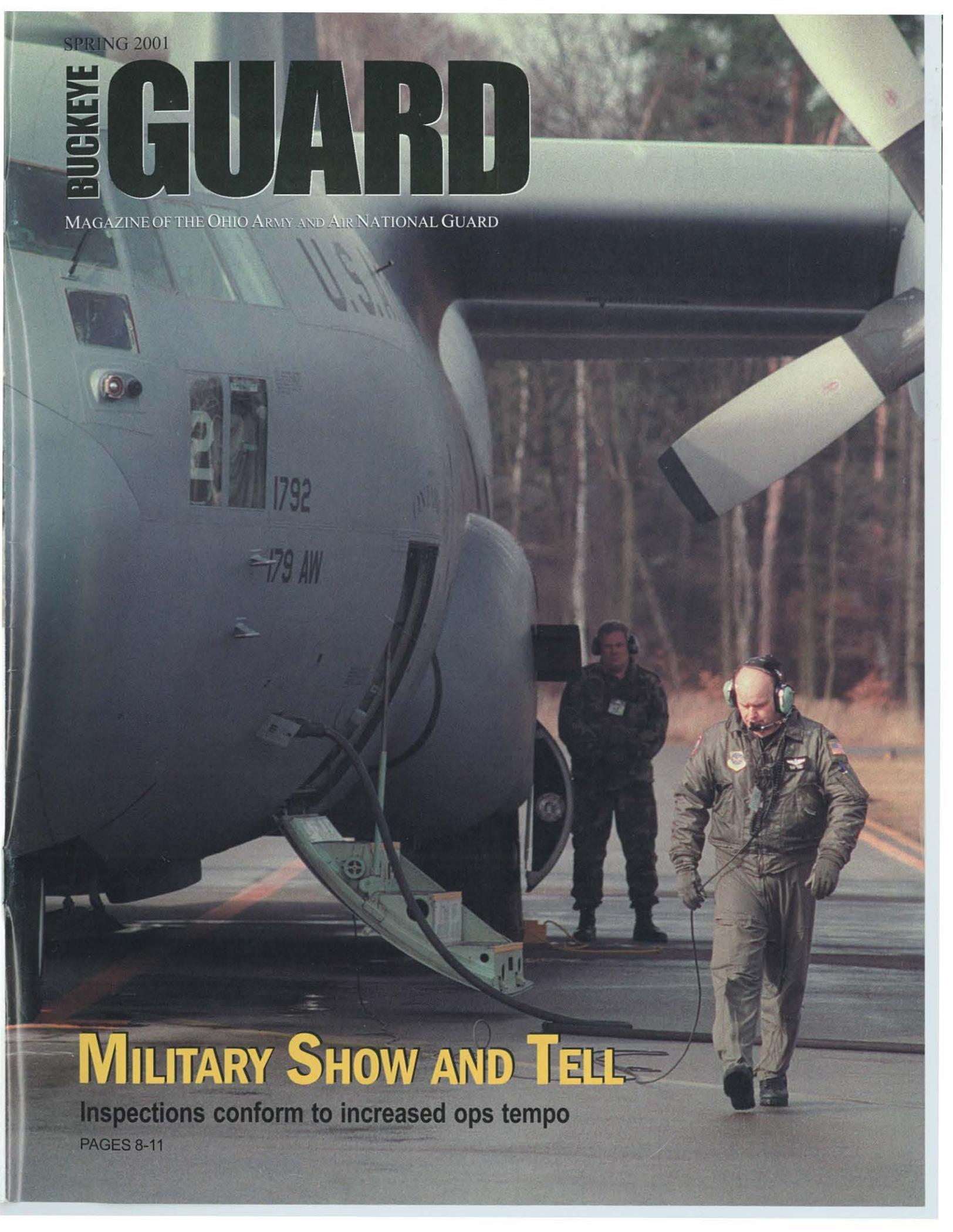


SPRING 2001

**BUCKEYE**

# GUARD

MAGAZINE OF THE OHIO ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD



## MILITARY SHOW AND TELL

Inspections conform to increased ops tempo

PAGES 8-11

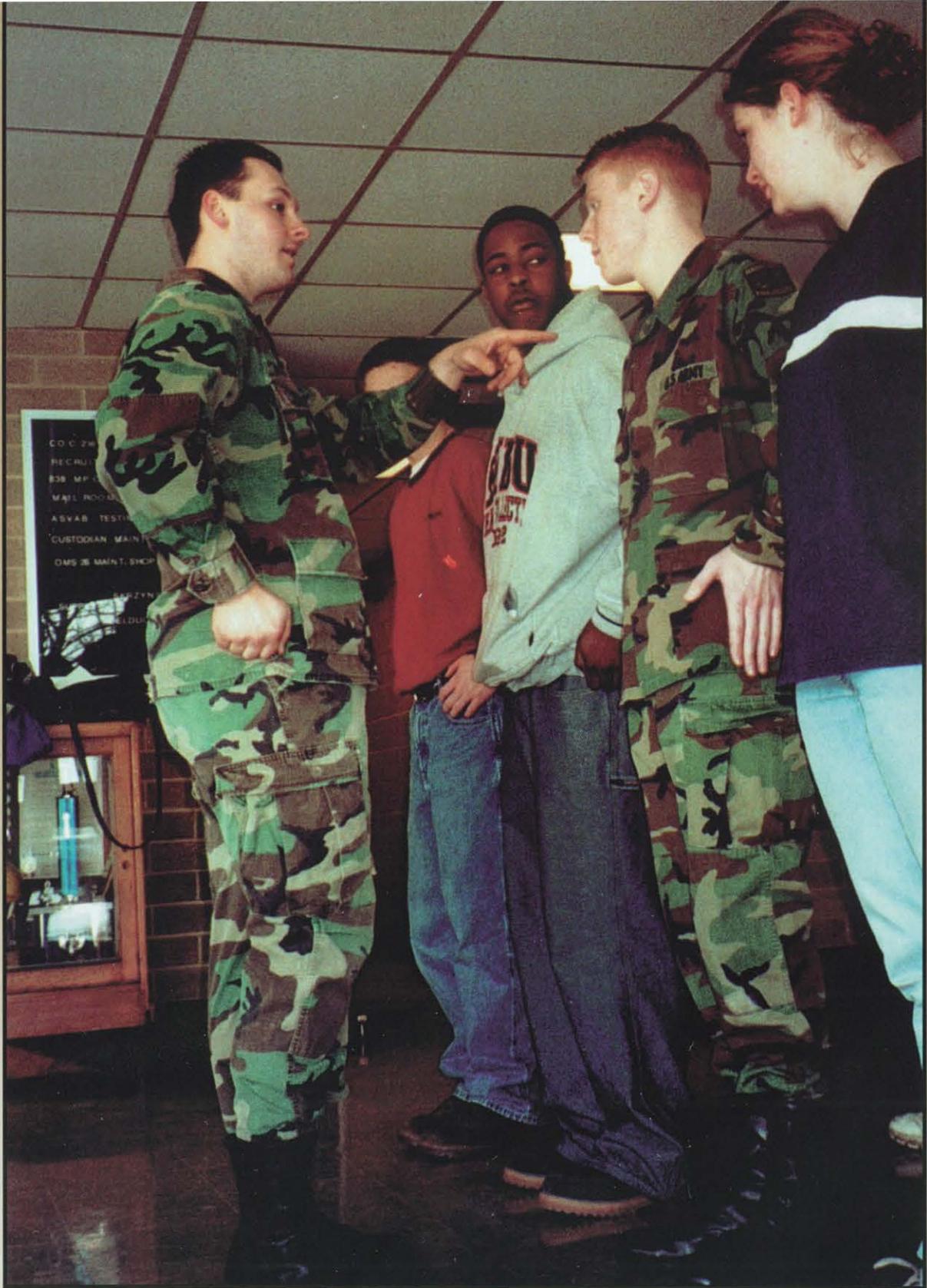


Photo by SPC Michelle Morgan, HQ STARC (-)

# Ready or not

Some Army National Guard units are running programs to introduce new enlistees to the military prior to basic training. See pages 18-19.

# BUCKEYE GUARD

Volume 25, No. 2

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Guardmembers and their families are encouraged to submit any articles meant to inform, educate or entertain *Buckeye Guard* readers, including stories about interesting Guard personalities and unique unit training. E-mail us at [buckeye@tagoh.org](mailto:buckeye@tagoh.org). Deadlines are:

Winter, **January 15**  
Spring, **April 15**  
Summer, **July 15**  
Fall, **October 15**



Photo by SGT J.R. Lewis, HQ STARC (-)

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Guardmember literally has come long way to become U.S. citizen, but hasn't forgotten his heritage.
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[www.ohionationalguard.com](http://www.ohionationalguard.com)

Log on to the Ohio National Guard website to learn more about the organization.

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Alliance unit opening armory to local high school wrestling team proves mutually beneficial.

**A drill team from Lorain Southview High School marches during the annual Junior ROTC Color Guard Competition, held this spring at Beightler Armory in Columbus. See page 26.**



Photo by MSgt Marvin Johnson, 180th Fighter Wing

**Pilots and crew of the 180th Fighter Wing, Toledo, line up F-16 "Fighting Falcon" jet aircraft prior to pilots conducting night flying training. For more on the mission, see pages 20-21.**

**ABOUT THE COVER:**  
A C-130 "Hercules" cargo plane is prepared for takeoff at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, during the 179th Airlift Wing's recent overseas deployment. Photo by TSgt Todd Cramer, 179th Airlift Wing

# Many factors in OHARNG's strength success



BY BG RONALD G. YOUNG  
ASST. ADJUTANT GENERAL, ARMY

Gen. Colin Powell once said: "There are no secrets to success; don't waste time looking for them.... Success is the result of perfection, hard work, learning from failure, loyalty to those for whom you work, and persistence. You must be ready for opportunity when it comes."

I believe in the past nine months, General Powell's words have come to fruition in the Ohio Army National Guard.

In August 1999, an opportunity presented itself in the form of the Ohio National Guard Scholarship Program. Following a number of efforts over a 10-year period to restore the undergraduate education benefit back to 100 percent, we received the support of Gov. Bob Taft and the Ohio General Assembly to create the ONGSP.

With that opportunity in mind, in the Winter 1999/2000 edition of *Buckeye Guard*, I outlined the OHARNG's recipe for success in personnel readiness—Buckeye Force 21, our Strength Campaign Plan. Buckeye Force 21 boiled down to three key ingredients: recruiting, retention and attrition. You should be proud that as early as March of this year, we achieved the personnel strength goal set by the National Guard Bureau (NGB) for Ohio. Exceeding this goal has been significant, as we have put ourselves in a position to reach our ultimate goal, 100 percent of authorized strength, well ahead of schedule. More important, as Maj. Gen. John H. Smith, our adjutant general, has always said, our mantra is to be capable of "responding when called, with ready units." Thanks to your efforts, we are there!

Our willingness to meet our personnel strength challenges head on has resulted in marked improvement of our overall readiness. The NGB's Army National Guard "Order of Readiness List Standings" bares this fact out.

Today, of 38 infantry battalions in the Army National Guard of the United States, the 1st Battalion, 148th Infantry (Mechanized) is the top National Guard infantry battalion in the country. Three other units—Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment (HHD), 512th Engineer Battalion, Cincinnati; HHC, 16th Engineer Brigade, Columbus; and the 122nd Army Band, Columbus—rank first when compared with other like units. Four additional units rank second. In all, 15 units ranked in the top 10 when compared with like units. This improvement is remarkable, and I challenge all of our units to dig deep and strive to reach those same heights.

The opportunity to reach these heights came from three places: the advent of the ONGSP, leadership and the willingness of every soldier to "pick up a weapon and follow me" on our mission to improve personnel readiness. The scholarship itself is enough to spark interest in prospective enlistees. However, just as in baseball, nothing can replace a great closer. In our case, one-on-one contact with our future soldiers, finding the right home for them in the OHARNG and getting them off on a great start with a sponsor, has been key. Those contacts are resulting in enlistments. Everyone can take some measure of credit for our success, however, we must remain vigilant and continue to build our OHARNG.

The personal contact our first-line leaders are making with their soldiers is resulting in retention rates we could not have anticipated. With our renewed emphasis of getting back to the basics—from routines such as drill and ceremonies and inspections, to enforcing strict military discipline—we are re-introducing the backbone of our military culture.

The proof, however, is in the pudding.

And that comes from well-planned, resourced and executed training. That starts with squad and section leaders being given the time they deserve to develop their team. Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack L. Tilley recently directed that "Sergeants Time" be resurrected and that ample time be committed to allow these young noncommissioned officers to do what we pay them to do. I am committed, as I always have been, to ensuring they receive their time, and that it is used to train their men and women. It is the best retention tool we have.

The success of every military campaign is ultimately dependent on one military maxim—the ability to maintain momentum. We still have many tools at our disposal to end our Buckeye 21 Strength Campaign on a record-breaking note. Keep pushing the ONGSP and Blue Streak leads, and the personal one-on-one contacts that are driving our success.

Our increase in overall readiness has seen Ohio jump 25 other states in the past year to go from 46th in the Order of Readiness Standings to 21st. More recently, in the last quarter of this fiscal year, we jumped another seven to move to 14th.

To give you an idea of how significant and quickly this improvement has come, our strategic plan calls for us to hit 10,000 personnel and be in the top 10 of the Order of Readiness Standings by 2005. With your continued personal dedication and hard work, we can make the top 10 and crack 10,000 by the end of this year, *four years ahead of schedule!* What an accomplishment it would be.

I am proud of everyone's effort; let's keep the momentum going, and join me on the objective as we **DRIVE ON TO 10,000!** ■

**"With our renewed emphasis of getting back to the basics...we are re-introducing the backbone of our military culture."**

## Whatever one does, good or bad, people notice uniform

As a retired Air Force major, I have always tried to be a role model for all of those around me. This was especially true while I was in uniform for 20 years. This should be true for every individual who has the honor to serve in our military regardless of unit or branch.

It is particularly distasteful to observe those in military uniform driving military vehicles to be less than the role models the civilian populace expects us to be.

On Sunday, March 11, I was driving from Nashville, Tenn., to my home in London, Ohio. My wife and I stopped at a McDonald's south of Cincinnati, just off of Interstate 71. While we were eating, a group of Ohio Army National Guard troops came in to get a meal and head back on the road. After finishing our meal we went outside to the car and observed a white Ohio Army National Guard bus.

As we were leaving the parking lot, the bus and two POVs (personally owned vehicles) with Army National Guard personnel in them departed at the same time. On I-71 we caught up with the bus that was climbing a hill and put our car on cruise control at 65 miles per hour. Several miles up the road we came to a construction site where the speed limit was 55 mph. We slowed down. The bus was immediately behind us. In my estimation the driver was following too closely.

When we left the construction zone and returned to the 65-mph area, the two POVs passed us and continued their journey at a speed above the speed limit. The bus remained behind us until we came into the area just south of Cincinnati then passed us. The two POVs were black pickups and I was sure that one had a civilian-style Ohio National Guard license plate. These

individuals did not portray a positive role model for the other troops and for the civilian public. These gentlemen should receive counseling regarding their unprofessional behavior and demonstrated lack of respect for our country's traffic laws.

The question in my mind is that if they abuse these laws, what others do they abuse? How might this abuse affect their ability to do their job? If this sounds like I'm a goody-two-shoes, then so be it. Play by the rules, all of the rules, or don't play.

MAJ (RET.) JEROLD W. WILEY  
U.S. AIR FORCE

## No Buckeye Guard for you

Being a retiree of the Ohio National Guard (February 2000), I have yet to receive a *Buckeye Guard*. What's up? I thought I was eligible to continue to receive my copy after retiring?

SGT (RET.) TERRY L. VELEBA  
212TH MISSILE MAINTENANCE CO.

*When guardmembers retire, they are not kept on the "Buckeye Guard" mailing list automatically.*

*A written letter or e-mail to the Public Affairs Office requesting to be on the mailing list will initiate a subscription until further notice. This request needs to be made only once, and then again only for an address change or cancellation.*

*Anyone wanting a free subscription to the magazine is entitled. Contact information can be found on page one.*

## Retrospective left unit out

Retired Master Sgt. Norman Brown Jr., a member of the Ohio Air National Guard from 1981-1993 and a 27-year military veteran, called the *Buckeye Guard* office recently to let us know that one of the Ohio Air Guard units was left off the roll call in the article about the 10-year anniversary of Operations Desert Storm/Shield (See *Winter 2000/2001 issue, pages 20-22*).

Brown and about 20 fellow members of the 160th Resource Management Squadron, based at Rickenbacker Airport, were activated in January 1991 and deployed to Maron Air Base, Spain, to perform general supply functions in support of the 801st Bomb Wing. Brown said while the majority of members deployed through mid-March 1991, some stayed activated through June.

BUCKEYE GUARD STAFF

## June 14 birthday marks transition for today's Army

Two hundred twenty-six years ago, the Continental Army formed with the goal of ending tyranny and winning our freedom. Since the end of the Revolution, American soldiers, imbued with the spirit of the original patriots, have pledged their allegiance to our nation through their sacrifices in uniform.

Today, all our forces—heavy and light, active, Guard and Reserve—share the heritage of the Continental Army. Whether standing a dangerous watch in Korea, safeguarding schoolchildren in Bosnia, or fighting wildfires in Idaho, you are the finest men and women the nation has to offer.

The key to the Army's success has always been both its reverence for the traditions that make our nation great and its flexibility and willingness to change. Our Army is transforming to an objective force that will meet the challenges of the 21st century. This new force will be as lethal and survivable as our heavy forces, but also as responsive and deployable as our light forces. Our transformation will thus ensure that the Army remains the best fighting force in the world: unchallenged and unparalleled.

On this, the first Army birthday of the new millennium, as a tangible symbol of our transformation, our unity and our commitment to excellence as the Army, we will begin wearing the black beret. The color black represents the heritage of both our heavy and our light formations. It is the black of night that hid Washington as he crossed the Delaware and the black of the grease that kept our tanks on track in Operation Desert Storm. The Army flash commemorates our heritage as an Army.

You represent what is most noble about our nation: liberty, freedom and unity. As the symbol of our transformed Army, you are, and will continue to be, respected by your allies, feared by your opponents, and esteemed by the American people. Your courage, dedication to duty, and selfless service to the nation will remain the hallmark you, the soldiers of the U.S. Army, carry into the 21st century.

GEN ERIC K. SHINSEKI  
ARMY CHIEF OF STAFF  
JOSEPH W. WESTPHAL

ACTING SECRETARY OF THE ARMY

### OHIO NATIONAL GUARD

## Historical Highlights



**J**udge Kennesaw Mountain Landis, the first commissioner of Major League Baseball, was born in Millville in Butler County, Ohio. He was named for the battle in which his father, an Ohio militiaman, was wounded—Kenesaw Mountain, Ga. **RETIRED JUDGE (COL.) ROBERT D. WALKER, 37TH INFANTRY DIVISION**

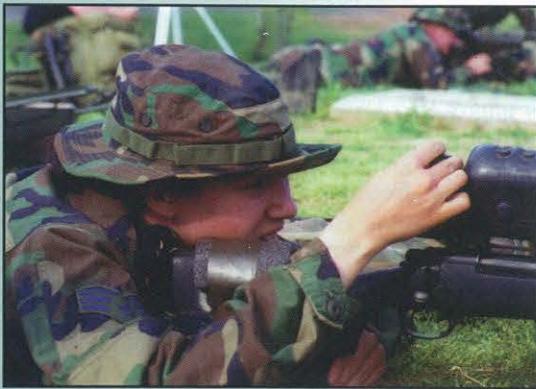


Photo by MSG Bob Haskell, National Guard Bureau

In April, SrA Jennifer Donaldson of the Illinois Air National Guard became the first woman to be trained at the only U.S. military sniper school open to females.

## ANG woman graduates countersniper school

March is the traditional month for celebrating Women's History. April 2001, however, is when 19-year-old Jennifer Donaldson made some history of her own.

She was nicknamed "G.I. Jane" at Camp Robinson in central Arkansas, near Little Rock. That's where the senior airman from the Illinois Air National Guard became the first woman to complete the only U.S. military sniper school open to females.

Donaldson and seven men graduated April 14 from the first countersniper program for Air Guard security force personnel conducted by the 8-year-old National Guard Sniper School.

"I feel that I have really accomplished something," Donaldson said. "I stuck with it because I wanted to prove to myself I could do it."

Sgt. 1st Class Ben Dolan, the school's chief instructor, maintains that more women should be trained as snipers.

"Frankly, women are better suited mentally for this job than most men," said Dolan who has learned the sniper craft from the Marines and the Army, and who saw duty as a Marine sniper 10 years ago during the Persian Gulf War.

"A woman is best suited to counter a woman sniper," he said. "That's important because more than 50 percent of the countries that have been considered hostile to the United States, including North Vietnam and North Korea, have used women snipers." NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU PUBLIC AFFAIRS

## Training top issue with guardmembers

A recent nationwide survey of Army National Guard soldiers indicated they were more concerned about training issues than well-being or quality-of-life matters.

More than two-thirds of the 5,712 respondents to the survey said they were willing to attend a skill-training or professional-development school as well as annual training with their unit during the same year.

The same soldiers were concerned about the lack of training resources available for the Army National Guard. This

easily outweighed their concerns about spending time with their families, promotions and civilian employment conflicts.

The 20-question survey was sent to half of the more than 61,000 Guard soldiers who are scheduled or qualified for formal military school training this year. Questionnaires were sent to 36,689 randomly selected soldiers, and the survey's results were based on 5,712 valid responses. The reported margin of error for the survey was just plus or minus 2 percent. NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU PUBLIC AFFAIRS

## Supply factors extend fielding of Army berets through fall

Some soldiers will have donned black berets by June 14, but others will receive the Army's new headgear in phases into November, service officials announced May 2.

They said the delay in fielding berets is due to three companies defaulting on deliveries and a policy decision not to issue berets made in China.

Soldiers in Ranger units, who have traditionally worn the black berets, will switch to tan berets, officials said. ARMY NEWS SERVICE

## Idaho set to host nationwide Air Guard softball tourney

Preparations are under way for the 2001 Air National Guard Softball Tournament Aug. 15-18 in Boise, Idaho.

As in past years, the tournament is open to all guardmembers in up to six divisions: men's open, women's open, men's over-35, men's over-45, coed and fast pitch.

This year, instead of double elimina-

tion, every team is guaranteed to play in at least three games. This year's tourney will also feature a home run derby and individual skill competition.

For more information, including hotel and car rental accommodations, log on to the official tournament website at [www.mountainhome.af.mil/softball](http://www.mountainhome.af.mil/softball). To register a team, call Lt. Col. Robert Pietras, tournament director, at (208) 828-6392 or co-director Master Sgt. Kathy Lukas at (208) 422-5840. IDAHO ANG PUBLIC AFFAIRS

## Governors ask president to maintain Guard roles

The nation's governors have called on the new president to "commit to the full preparation and maximum use of the National Guard in peacetime and wartime."

In a March 28 letter to President George W. Bush, the National Governors' Association, or NGA, also said the National Guard should play a major role in the new administration's ongoing assessment of the nation's 21st century security needs. Bush has promised to reform the nation's armed forces after a "top-down" review of the Defense Department.

South Carolina Gov. Jim Hodges, NGA Human Resources Committee chairman, and Ohio Gov. Bob Taft, committee vice chairman, signed the letter. In it, they reminded the president of the National Guard's large role in national security, at home and abroad.

"We are proud that the National Guard is capable of performing tasks in the interest of national defense and security," they wrote, "and is available at our command to assist the citizens of the states when the need arises."

"The National Guard's strengths are its people, its state and federal ties, its unique dual mission, and its cost-effectiveness and combat readiness. It is the national insurance policy for domestic and foreign emergencies." NATIONAL GUARD MAGAZINE

## Registration open for fifth annual Air Force Marathon

The fifth annual U.S. Air Force Marathon will take place Sept. 22 at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base near Dayton.

To register, visit the marathon website at <http://afmarathon.wpafb.af.mil/>, and click on the "register information" button. Payment is by credit card only.

The entry deadline is Sept. 5. For more information or other registration options, call the U.S. Air Force Marathon office at (937) 257-4350. AIR FORCE PRINT NEWS

# Faces in the Guard



**Spc. Victor J. Minzer**  
*Petroleum Supply Specialist*  
 Det.1, Company D, 137th Aviation (AVIM), North Canton

Minzer joined the Ohio Army National Guard after serving three-and-a-half years on active duty with the 82nd Airborne Division. He currently is attending the University of Akron full-time and studies electrical engineering. Minzer's career goals include working in the automotive industry with automated robots. He likes to hunt, camp and travel when he has time between his studies and his drill weekends.

**Senior Airman Holly M. Caldwell**  
*Information Management Apprentice*  
 180th Fighter Wing, Toledo

Caldwell completed basic training at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas, in 1996 where she earned recognition as one of her class honor graduates. She then completed Information Management school at Keesler Air Force Base, Miss. Caldwell is scheduled to complete her degree this year. She has successfully passed the Air Force Qualification Test and would like to pursue a commission in the Air National Guard.



**Sgt. Sam P. Sweeney**  
*Infantry Team Leader*  
 Company A, 1-148th Mechanized Infantry, Xenia

Sweeney, a native of Cincinnati, originally joined the Guard for the tuition benefits and travel opportunities, but he enjoyed his job and liked the people he worked with so much that he has re-enlisted twice since. The nine-year Ohio Army Guardmember participates in softball, wakeboarding and fantasy football when he is not at work as a human resource assistant for Lighthouse Youth Services in Cincinnati.

**Senior Airman Yvette S. Worstall**  
*Information Manager*  
 Headquarters, Ohio Air National Guard, Columbus

Worstall enlisted in the Ohio ANG in May 1998 and was an information manager assigned to the 121st Air Refueling Wing Support Group before transferring to Headquarters in 1999. She currently is majoring in early childhood education at Ohio University-Lancaster, and is employed part-time at the Little Buckeye Learning Center (daycare). She also volunteers for the Friendship Program, through Franklin County Children Services.



**Sgt. Bryan M. Stover**  
*Crash Rescue Specialist*  
 5694th Engineer Detachment (Fire Fighting), Mansfield

Stover joined the Ohio National Guard to become a firefighter and continue his military career after serving as a radio operator/maintainer and cavalry scout on active duty. On drill weekends, when not training as a firefighter, he assists with the weight control and physical fitness programs. He works full-time as a marketing assistant for the Ohio Army Guard. Stover lives with his wife, Andrea, and two children, Tate and Dana, in Columbus.

BLUE ASH

## Command profile



**LtCol Norm Poklar**  
 123rd Air Control Squadron

**Age:** 38

**Traditional Guard Position:**

Commander 123rd ACS.

**Full-Time Occupation:** Detachment Commander.

**Hometown:** Wickliffe, Ohio.

**Marital status:** married to Janeen.

**Children:** two, Norman and Miranda.

**Most recent achievement:**

I haven't done much lately.

**The last good movie I saw was:**

*Gladiator.*

**The book I'm reading is:**

*Field and Stream.*

**My most prized possession is:**

I do not believe in material possessions. Just be happy.

**Hero:** any F-16 pilot.

**Nobody knows I'm:**

very interested in preserving agricultural areas in the state.

**I'm better than anyone else at:**

not taking myself too seriously.

**I'd give anything to meet:**

John D. Rockefeller.

**The three words that**

**best describe me:**

Honey, I'm sorry.

**If I could leave today's guardmembers with one piece of advice it would be:**

work hard, play hard and get everything out of life you can.

# Remembering his roots

Nicol seeks better life in America, but heart remains in West African homeland

Story by Sgt. J.R. Lewis  
HQ STARC (-)

When Cliff Nicol recalls his youth in Sierra Leone, any talk of revolution or civil war is conspicuously absent. The immigrant from the civil-war-torn country in western Africa remembers the strong sense of family he felt with both relatives and neighbors.

"We have what one would call a nuclear family. Even the neighbors and close friends were sometimes, to some extent, deemed as family," Nicol said. "I enjoyed the friendly atmosphere that I shared with my folks while I was there."

But even the best intentions of family members couldn't change the political climate of Sierra Leone. The country—slightly smaller in size than South Carolina and resting between Liberia and Guinea on the western coast of Africa—has been racked by civil war since 1991 as battles between the government and the Revolutionary United Front (RUF) have resulted in tens of thousands of deaths and the displacement of more than 2 million people (greater than one-third of the population), many of whom are now refugees in neighboring countries.

Born in the capital city of Freetown, Nicol was raised by his paternal grand-

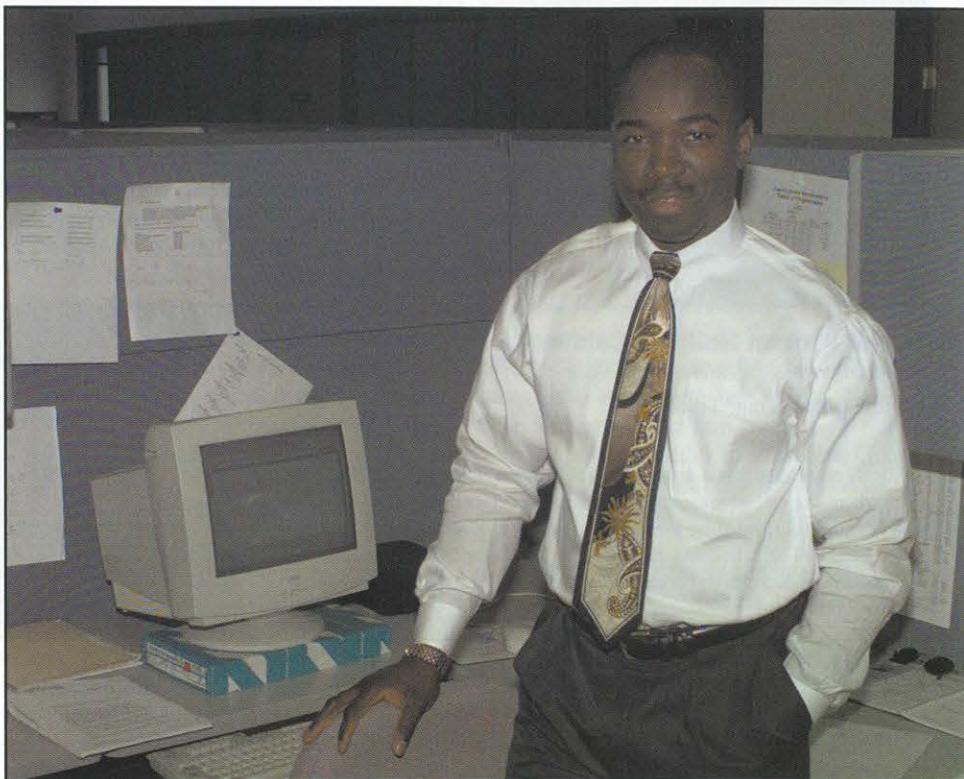


Photo by Todd Cramer, Adjutant General's Department Photo Lab

**Nicol works as a programmer analyst at the Ohio Department of Taxation.**

mother and great-grandmother. He recalls their guidance and nurturing as "life-saving."

"My successes were their successes," as were his failures, Nicol said.

After the death of both his grandmother and great-grandmother, Nicol, who has two brothers and three sisters, moved in with his mother, Frances Barnes, a manager at Barclay International Bank in Freetown. Nicol's father, Claude Nicol, is a manager at the National Petroleum Company, also located in Freetown. Nicol said he began to feel unhappy about living in Sierra Leone when he started high school.

"Living in Sierra Leone in some aspects was great and in others was terrible. This is true for almost everywhere one goes," Nicol said. "But I saw Sierra Leone moving from

grace to grass. Government officials were corrupted, greedy and lacked patriotism. I witnessed a lot of people whose potentials went down the drain in Sierra Leone and I promised myself that was not going to happen to me.

"I knew that I had to get out of there eventually to make the best out of life."

**...as Nicol progressed and served honorably in the National Guard, he didn't realize he was actually committing a crime.**

After graduating from high school in 1984, Nicol was accepted at Fourah Bay College, one of the top universities in West Africa. But Nicol was unhappy with the corruption there, which he believes was similar to the problem that had infected the government. So he worked for a couple years as an account clerk at a diamond mining company, Precious Mineral Marketing Company (PMMC), and

later served as a foreign service national for the United States Information Service at the U.S. Embassy in Freetown.

A visit to New York in January 1989 convinced Nicol that the best opportunities for him were in America, though New York City was "too fast."

In August of that same year, Nicol went to live with his uncle, Cyril Nicol, in Columbus. After starting school at Columbus State Community College in September, Nicol ran into one of the most common problems facing college students.

"I started running out of funds in Spring 1990 and contacted several armed services, including the Ohio Army National Guard," Nicol recalled. "(The OHARNG) was the first to respond back to me."

Nicol joined the Guard and was shipped to basic training and Advanced Individual Training (AIT) in June 1990.

"I was assigned to HQ STARC (Headquarters, State Area Command) in October after returning from training," Nicol said. "I assisted with rear support during the activation for Desert Storm then started classes again at Columbus State in January 1991."

However, as Nicol progressed and served honorably in the National Guard, he didn't realize he was actually committing a crime.

"I was not aware that I had violated my student visa by joining the military," Nicol said. "The school later informed me about my status, and I nearly got deported."

Nicol was honorably discharged from the Guard in 1991 and began the fight to gain permanent residency status so he could rejoin the service that had provided him with the patriotism and organization, as well as funding resources for education, he desperately desired. It was a battle Nicol finally won in spring of 1992, when he gained residency status and re-enlisted in the Ohio Guard.

Shortly thereafter, Nicol gained a full-time temporary duty (TDY) position in the orders section at the Adjutant General's Department, located in Columbus. "I was then hired as a full-time state employee to fill a vacant state position in the same section at the Adjutant General's Department a little over a year after serving in TDY capacity," Nicol recalled.

He also kept on top of his educational goals and in 1995 earned his associate's degree in applied science, with a concentration in computer programming technology. Nicol was also promoted to sergeant around the same time, but his success in the Guard was tempered by a visit

**Nicol holds the charter that recognizes his membership in the Grand Lodge of Scotland, an organization he joined before he left Sierra Leone in 1989.**



## SIERRA LEONE

**Capital:** Freetown  
**Government:** Parliamentary  
**Religions:** Islam (40%), Christian (35%), Indigenous (20%)  
**Natural Resources:** Diamonds, Bauxite, Iron ore  
**Major Languages:** English, Krio, Mende, Temne  
**Literacy:** 21%  
**Population:** 4.6 million  
**Area:** 27,925 square miles

to his homeland in December of 1995.

"Freetown, the capital city, was the only safe place to be as the rest of the country was war-infested," Nicol said.

Nicol saw his brother-in-law officiating as the deputy head of state and sister serving as the second lady of the country. "My brother-in-law later became the head of

state for a brief moment and handed power over to the current civilian President Kabbah," Nicol said.

Back in the states, Nicol furthered his studies by attending Devry Institute of Technology, where he earned a bachelor's degree in computer information systems. After a brief stint at OHARNG Officer Candidate School, Nicol pursued a civilian career in his area of study.

"I started working for my current employer as a programmer analyst in the Information Services Division at the Ohio Department of Taxation in January of 1998," Nicol said. He is currently serving as functional team leader for some of the department's information technology projects, and has been appointed as one of the department's quality reporters to facilitate quality initiatives.

Nicol is currently working on a master's degree in business administration (MBA) at Franklin University and is scheduled to graduate in August 2001. He is also serving as the Columbus Chapter secretary of the National Black MBA Association, and intends to earn a law degree at Capital University when his MBA is complete.

But for all of his success in Ohio, Nicol still remembers his roots and wishes to give back to the place that nurtured him as a child.

"I look forward to starting a charitable organization to help the needy, especially the innocent war victims, in Sierra Leone," Nicol said. "I believe that my purpose here on earth is to do God's will." ■



# SHOW AND TELL

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STORY BY 2ND LT. SHANNON SCHERER  
PHOTOS BY TECH. SGT. TODD CRAMER  
179TH AIRLIFT WING

## Military inspections conform to increased ops tempo



THIS PHOTO: A crew from the Kentucky Air National Guard de-ices a 179th Airlift Wing C-130 cargo aircraft prior to an Operation Joint Forge mission.

Sometimes the military can be a confusing place to work. Changes to uniforms, equipment and regulations are commonplace in this business. To help units with the increasing demand of operations tempo, or ops tempo, the process of inspections has also been forced to change with the times.

Members of the 179th Airlift Wing experienced these inspection changes during a recent Air Expeditionary Force (AEF) rotation in Germany. The Mansfield unit, which has delivered supplies to multinational peacekeepers in Bosnia as part of Operation Joint Forge since 1993, deployed more than 300 personnel during this three-month operation.

Members of the 123rd Airlift Wing, Kentucky Air National Guard, and the 179th joined efforts not only for the Joint Forge operation, but also for an Expeditionary Operational Readiness Inspection (EORI). The inspection, held February 20-23, at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, was different from the Operational Readiness Inspections (ORI) of the past.

During a pre-inspection briefing, Brig. Gen. Myron Ashcraft, chief of staff for the Ohio Air National Guard said, "This allows us to deploy to a forward mission and get paid to do the job we train to do."

The ORI allowed inspectors to evaluate only one wing with all of its unit tasking codes (UTCs). The unit would spend nearly

## SHOW AND TELL

two years preparing to deploy to a remote location where the inspector general would control the scenarios. Today's EORI is a kinder, gentler inspection. Instead of looking at only one wing in its entirety, this inspection allows for several wings, various UTCs and several branch components to deploy to a combat readiness training site. Inspectors evaluate wings while they do their real-world missions.

"The IG gets to see us doing our real jobs," said Maj. Chris Salvucci, 179th plans officer. "We are not wasting our time preparing for a simulated deployment."

This EORI allowed for roughly eight areas of the 179th to be inspected. Packages from aviation, headquarters, intelligence, personnel, history, chaplain, legal and comptroller were all evaluated while accomplishing their actual mission taskings.

"This type of inspection gets the Guard, Reserve and active duty working together to accomplish the mission," said Capt. Teddi Steil, inspector general.

The downside to this type of inspection is that there is no Ability to Survive and Operate (ATSO) portion. So while units may be seen working in their natural environments, another inspection will have to evaluate their abilities to survive in case of a nuclear, biological or chemical attack.

Working as a team under the 38th Provisional Squadron, the 179th and 123rd made the inspection a success. Both units passed with flying colors.

"The members of Louisville and Mansfield had a lot going on," said 179th Lt. Col. Mark Stephens, who served as mission commander. "You had different bases and people away from home making it happen. They stepped up to the plate and did a great job." ■

**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: 1. Crew members from Kentucky and Missouri Air Guard units are briefed by the 179th Airlift Wing's Maj Pete Tesner (right) prior to a flight. 2. CMSgt Greg Eister, a 179th flight engineer, straps on a sidearm before an airlift mission. 3. SMSgt. Carmine Barretta (right), a 179th loadmaster, is assisted with loading a pallet on to a C-130 by Kentucky Guardmembers. 4. An Illinois Guard loadmaster directs a K-loader operator on the flightline.**



# THE GUARD TAKES CHARGE

**F**or the first time in Operation Joint Forge history, the Air National Guard took command of both active-duty and Guard forces comprising the 38th Provisional Squadron. Traditionally commanded by active-duty forces, the operational baton passed to Lt. Col. Mark Stephens, vice commander of the 179th Airlift Wing, Mansfield, in early February.

Since 1993, Operation Joint Forge and its predecessors—Joint Endeavor and Joint Guard—have been providing multinational forces with supplies in the Bosnian theater. The operation, supported by the Air Expeditionary Force concept, groups active-duty, Reserve and Guard components together in a time of military downsizing and high operations tempo.

The appointment of Stephens as commander of the 38th Provisional Squadron, or “Delta Squadron,” under the auspices of the 86th Airlift Wing, Ramstein Air Base, Germany, was unprecedented in the history of the operation.

Maj. Chris Salvucci, 179th plans officer, said it made sense for the Guard to take charge of the operation. “The active duty has reduced aircraft because of peace in Bosnia, and our presence here helps reduce the active duty’s ops tempo,” Salvucci said. “As of February 26, the Guard had 100 percent of the aircraft here at Joint Forge.”

Stephens was named squadron commander of more than 250 active-duty, Reserve and Guard personnel and eight C-130 aircraft from across the United States. Though he has participated in the Bosnian airlift missions from the beginning, Stephens said it was the first time he had held a staff position. “Before I was just a crew member,” he said. “It is a very exciting experience for me.”

Stephens received the role as director of operations of 38th Provisional because of his senior O-5 standing at the 179th and for the purpose of a subsequent Expeditionary Operational Readiness Inspection (EORI) reviewing the 179th’s command package.

But Stephens’ role was not just to ensure mission readiness at the 38th Provisional—he also was expected to be part of the total force team and the 86th Airlift Wing command staff.

“I had a lot more interface than just with Delta Squadron,” Stephens said. “You are just one of the squadrons under the 86th AW. They expect the same thing of me as their other active-duty commanders.”

Stephens attended weekly wing commanders’ meetings and learned about the other missions occurring at the 86th AW. “You are not just dealing with flying, but I get to see the whole wing and all the missions. I felt a true part of this wing.”



“You are just one of the squadrons under the 86th AW. They expect the same thing of me as their other active-duty commanders.”

—LtCol Mark Stephens

Stephens said while a professional rivalry still existed among the components, the other forces did not attach a stigma to him because he was a member of the Guard.

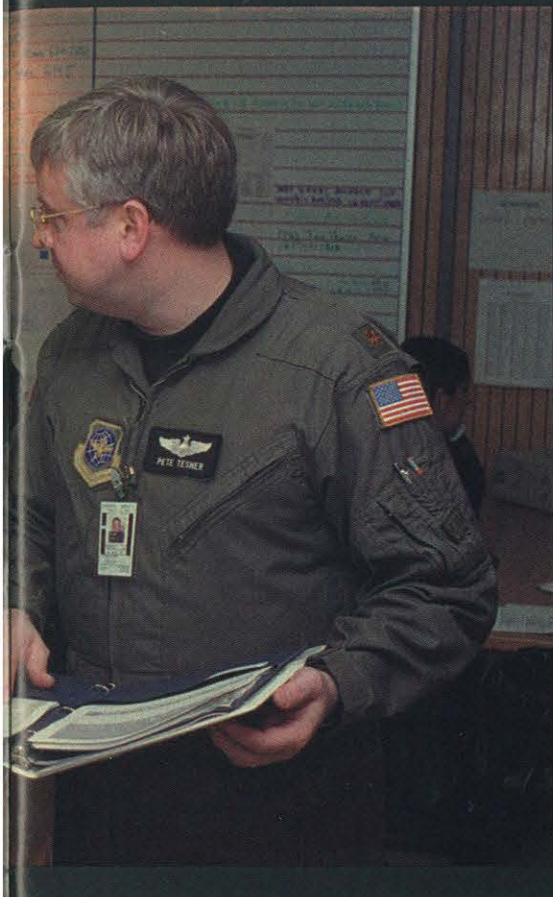
“I knew the Guard was a little different and that we all do business differently, but effectively,” said 2nd Lt. Darin Tiffany, maintenance officer with the 41st Aero Squadron, Pope Air Force Base, N.C. “It was good to see how the Guard does business and learn from it. There is a lot of experience there to learn from.”

While some challenges existed in working with older aircraft assigned to the active duty, everyone assigned to Delta Squadron thought the mission was a great success.

“You couldn’t tell people apart,” said Lt. Col. Charles Daugherty, 179th Logistics Group commander. “The only way you could tell someone was from a different unit was to ask. This was a very seamless operation.”

Stephens ended his command of Delta Squadron on March 5, when the 179th returned all of its personnel home.

Stephens said this type of mission shows there is equal capability in the reserve components and active duty, and that no one can tell them apart. “It is nice to work together and better appreciate each other’s challenges,” he said. “It’s nice to see the total force concept at work.” ■



# Troops to Teachers

Servicemembers trade MREs and ammo for apples and textbooks

Story by Sgt. J.R. Lewis 🍏 🍏 🍏 HQSTARC(-)

Jeffery Little feels like he is answering a “call to serve.” Teaching primarily English and social studies to troubled youth at the Mohican Youth Center, a juvenile correctional facility near Loudonville, the 32-year-old graduate of Ohio State University is making a difference in the lives of students who perhaps need it more than many others.

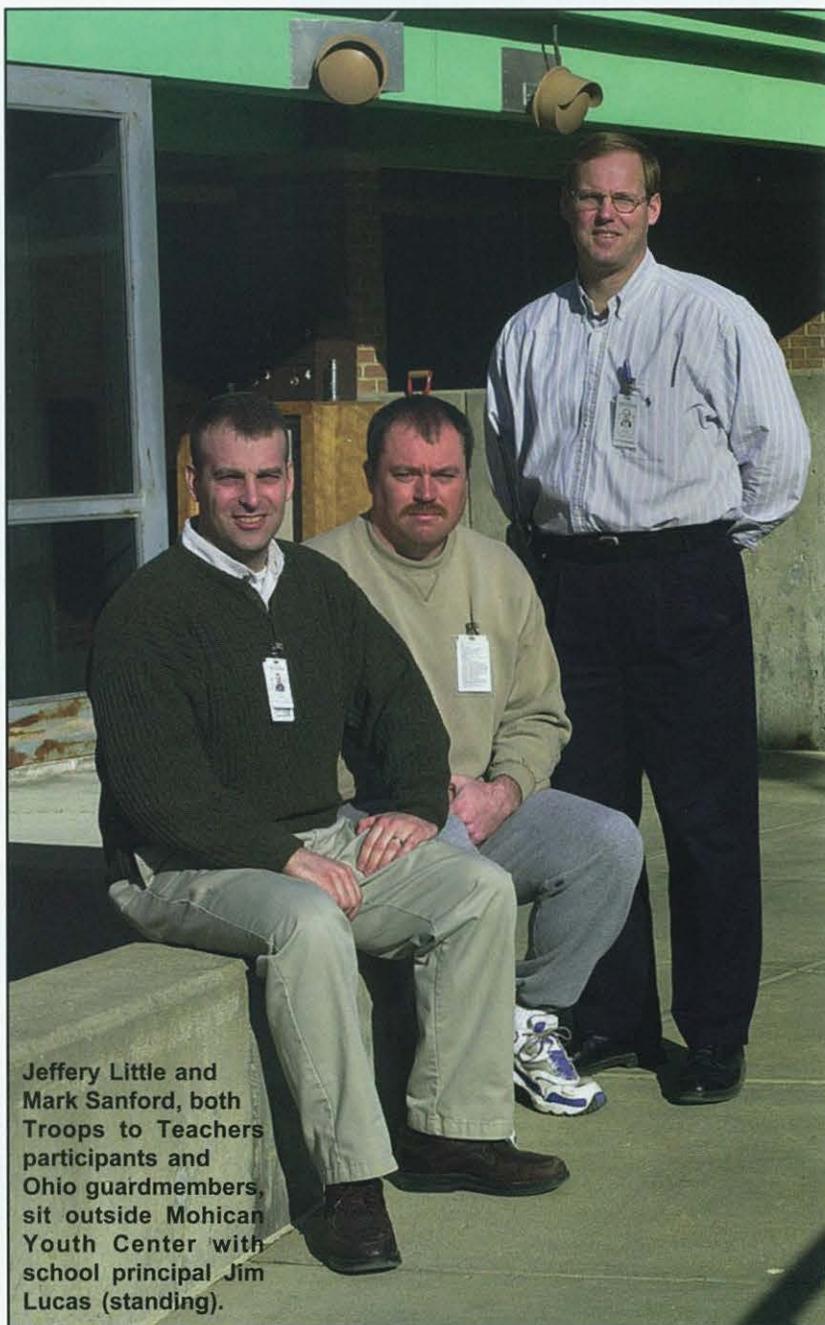
“I can’t quite put into words what it is I like so much about teaching,” he said. “It’s a chance to grow in a profession that never grows old.”

Little, who also serves as first sergeant of the 179th Airlift Wing’s Support Group, said his 15 years in the Ohio National Guard provided him with the discipline to study and the leadership abilities necessary for teaching. “The military has prepared me well to be a teacher,” said Little, who was first employed at Mohican as a corrections officer.

Learning about his desire to teach, Army National Guardmember and fellow employee Mark Sanford told Little about the vastly resourceful, yet often underused program called Troops to Teachers.

Established Jan. 19, 1994, the Troops to Teachers program encourages military and Coast Guard personnel, as well as DoD and Department of Energy civilian employees affected by force reductions, to pursue a career in the field of education.

Little said that Ed Hall, Ohio Troops to Teachers program manager, helped him fill out the considerable amount of paperwork correctly and gather the



Jeffery Little and Mark Sanford, both Troops to Teachers participants and Ohio guardmembers, sit outside Mohican Youth Center with school principal Jim Lucas (standing).

**“I can’t quite put into words what it is I like so much about teaching. It’s a chance to grow in a profession that never grows old.”**

pertinent information, such as job histories and military documents, necessary to qualify for the benefit.

Though he believes it takes “years to get used to the classroom through schooling experience and observation,” Mohican Principal Jim Lucas

believes Little’s military experience translates into a professional attitude and will minimize his learning curve.

Lucas added that Little’s background in supervising the kids as a corrections officer at the facility also has prepared him for teaching. “He

Photo by SMSgt Larry Wilson, 179th Airlift Wing

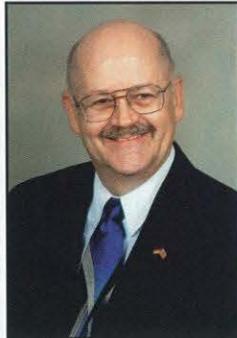
already has a good rapport with the youth and a considerable amount of experience, which are both important given the type of youths he must teach,” Lucas said.

“Teaching is something I’ve wanted to do for a long time,” Little said. “This is an excellent opportunity to work as a teacher while trying to get licensed.”

Hall said Troops to Teachers was

initially funded and managed by the Defense Activity for Nontraditional Educational Support (DANTES) through the Department of Defense. "In October 2000, the program was transferred to the Department of Education for funding, but DoE contracted with DANTES to continue to manage the program as they have done since the beginning," he explained.

Ohio law requires teachers to be certified/licensed by the Ohio Department of Education. To become a licensed teacher, one must successfully complete a preparation program at an approved four-year teacher education institution, as well as pass all applicable portions of the Praxis Series exam, formerly the National Teacher Exam (NTE).



Hall

## Little was directed to the vastly resourceful, yet often underused program called Troops to Teachers.

According to Hall, there are basically three benefits Ohio servicemembers can tap into under the Troops to Teachers program.

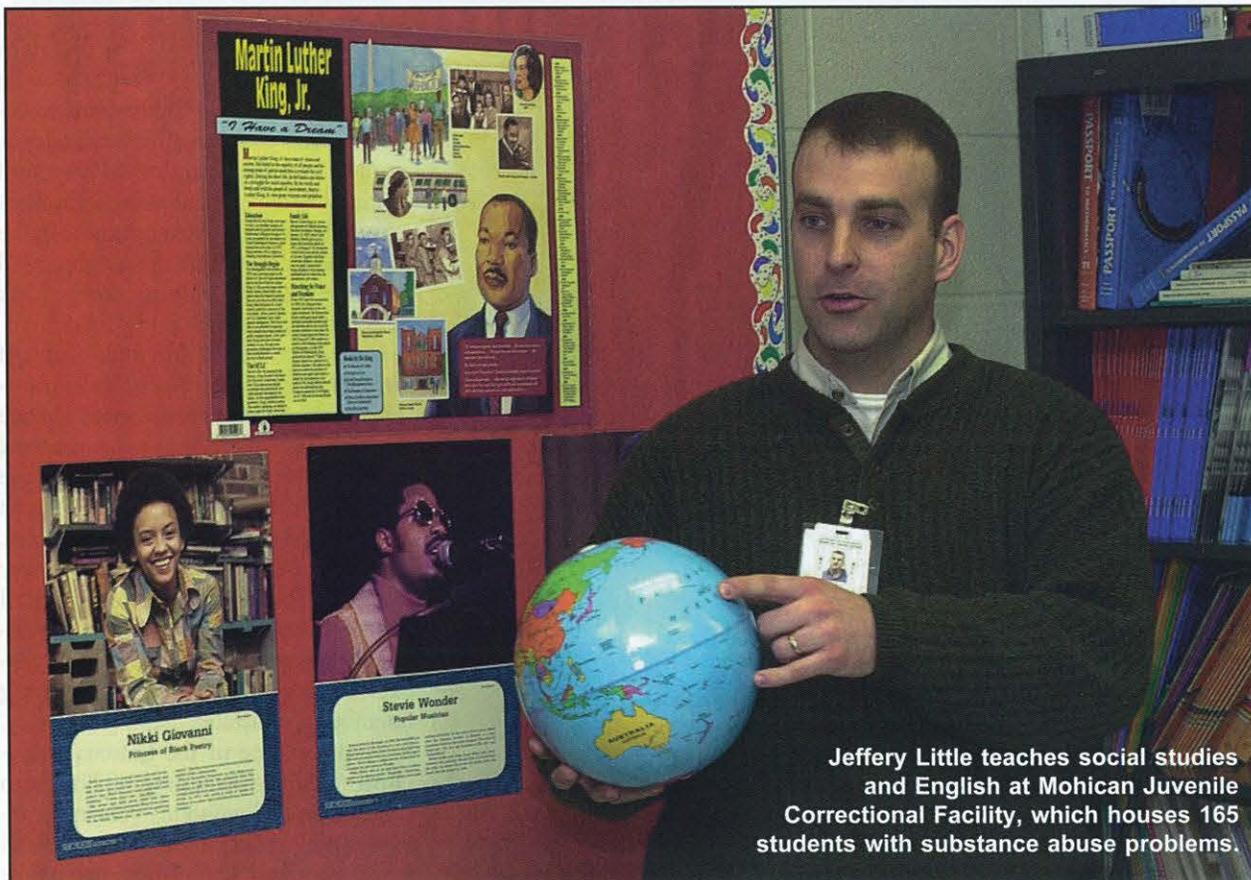
The first is provided for by Ohio Revised Code 3319.283. The legislature allows anyone who has been honorably discharged from the armed forces from July 1, 1994 to June 30, 2000, or is currently still serving in the Air or Army National Guard, to teach as they attend courses to become fully certified provided they have a bachelor's degree and have been assigned as an instructor at some point in their military career.

The second provision is the result of

ORC 3319.225, which grants a temporary administrative license to servicemembers who have achieved at least a bachelor's degree related to finance or administration, or five years of recent experience in education or management. The one-year, renewable administrative license can help servicemembers land positions as principals, assistant principals, superintendents and other administrative positions.

"Any officer or NCO is in a leadership/management position," Hall said. "Military service can usually fulfill this requirement."

The third provision comes from ORC 3317.13, which states that anyone currently or previously on active duty can receive credit on the payscale for up to five years of their service.



Jeffery Little teaches social studies and English at Mohican Juvenile Correctional Facility, which houses 165 students with substance abuse problems.

Photo by SMSgt Larry Wilson, 179th Airlift Wing

## First lady recognizes educators, promotes Troops to Teachers

Surrounded by educators, children and soldiers, first lady Laura Bush spoke in honor of National Teacher Day and tried to recruit soldiers for the Troops to Teachers program during a visit to Fort Jackson, S.C., May 8.

In the next 10 years, schools across the nation will have to hire thousands of new teachers to keep up with the growing student population, Bush said, and that's where...military personnel could help.

"My husband thought I was kidding when I told him I was going to call in the military," she said. But the first lady added that the president supports her 100 percent and also gives 100 percent support to servicemembers interested in Troops to Teachers.

"American school children need you," Bush said.

The Troops to Teachers program is designed to find "the best and the brightest to serve in our classrooms," she said. "You have a sense of duty, honor and courage that our children should emulate."

Military veterans also have expertise in hard-to-fill subjects like science, math and engineering, the first lady added.

"We need many more excellent teachers," she said. "We need more people like you."

While the challenges of teaching are different from those of serving in the military, Bush said the rewards of teaching are great. "As a former teacher, I'm proud to add my voice."

The president has added his support by proposing that funding for Troops to Teachers be increased from \$3 million to \$30 million in fiscal year 2002.

"Join Troops to Teachers," Bush said, "for your future and for our nation's future."

"We've already heard from the Association of School Superintendents how important it is across the country to get retired military," Bush told Armed Forces Radio and Television Service after the rally. "Just as there is a need for teachers, there is also a need for principals and superintendents, and a lot of retired military have already had a lot of experience managing big budgets and managing big groups of people, and that's what superintendents and principals need to do."

Spectators of the first lady's visit thought the initiative was a good one. "I agree with her wholeheartedly," said Sallie Currin, a Hood Street Elementary School teacher.

"We need the proven leadership of military personnel. I'm glad she's here to support education." BY LINDA LYLly AND REGENIA GATEWOOD / FORT JACKSON LEADER



AFIS photo

During its first two years, the program also provided applicants—with six years of active duty and who filled "high need" positions—with a \$5,000 stipend to offset educational fees associated with pursuing teacher certification. In addition, school districts received grants to help pay the salary of Troops to Teacher participants—50 percent of their salary the first year, 40 percent the next, and so on for the first five years of employment. "Though the federal Troops to Teachers program is still operating...money for school districts and applicants is no longer available unless applied for prior to Sept. 30, 1995, or unless the applicant is a member of the U.S. Coast Guard," Hall said.

"(Now) Troops to Teachers is primarily acting as a referral and information office," he explained. The program's Ohio office is located at the Ohio Department of Education in downtown Columbus.

"I think the program has a tremendous amount to offer," said retired Maj. Richard Tankersley, a former assistant principal at Northwestern High School near Springfield who learned about the program while working in the Pentagon. But Tankersley is concerned the withdrawal of grant money to schools that hire teachers from the program may be a nail in the casket. "I don't think the program will survive unless Congress brings back the grants," he said.

However, partly due to the support of First Lady Laura Bush, Hall is optimistic. "I think there's a good chance we may get the \$5,000 stipend back again." According to Hall, during the last two years, amendments have been introduced in Congress to do just that. But the perception is grant money doesn't need to be offered to school districts anymore because of the favorable reception of Troops to Teachers participants and the diminishing number of educators in today's society.

"At the time of the military draw-down and the beginning of Troops to Teachers, the nation also began experiencing a shortage of teachers," Hall said, adding that Ohio was one of the first states to set up an office to support



NGB Visual Information Support Center photo

the program. "There are more and more teaching positions going unfilled every year."

Couple that with the quality teachers that result from the program, and Troops can spell only success. "The biggest thing I hear about servicemembers is how disciplined they are," Hall said. "I hear from principals and other administrators about how servicemembers who become teachers make excellent role models."

Hall said there are more than 18,000 people nationwide enrolled in Troops to Teachers on the DANTES database, with 3,865 having been hired as classroom teachers. There are more than 1,500 from Ohio alone, with 130 former servicemembers and federal employees finding employment.

Hall said that his office is "trying to get the word out," but that the word doesn't always get to the right people. This is why he targets Transition Assistance Program briefings and Internet users, which are high-traffic areas for servicemembers in transition.

## "I hear from principals and other administrators about how servicemembers who become teachers make excellent role models."

However, this doesn't always reach schools in need.

"The word about the program might make it to the superintendent and the principal, but that doesn't mean it will make it to the human resources officer," Hall said.

Jim Lucas agrees. Though Mohican Juvenile Correctional Facility has hired three teachers through the program, Lucas feels that the word might not be getting out to the right people. "I think a lot of people don't know about Troops to Teachers," he said. "Maybe getting out the word can light a fire of interest in the program."

Tankersley agrees that, while communication "is key" to the program's success or failure, those who want to use the program should try to be more flexible in order to reap the benefits.

"Many servicemembers in transi-

tion reduce their employability by wanting to 'go home' after they get out," Tankersley said. "They restrict themselves this way.

"It's hard to imagine such a valuable resource going untapped."

Having seen the benefits of Troops to Teachers first-hand, Lucas is certain that the program can be a valuable resource.

"The benefits of (military) leadership and management skills really show," Lucas said.

For more information about the Troops to Teachers program in Ohio, contact Hall by phone at (800) 852-6064 or (614) 466-5734, by e-mail at [Ed.Hall@ode.state.oh.us](mailto:Ed.Hall@ode.state.oh.us) or check out the Ohio program's website at [www.ode.state.oh.us/tp/ohiot3.htm](http://www.ode.state.oh.us/tp/ohiot3.htm). ■

## Ohio National Guard instructors take message of respect to schools

# Building

**T**o learn fairness, the students were divided into small groups and told to build the tallest free-standing tower possible.

Each group began with different materials: One had transparent tape and paper clips; another had only paper, index cards and plastic straws.

Given just 10 minutes to complete the assignment, several students at Groveport Madison Freshman School looked around the classroom and complained.

"It's not fair," more than one said.

To which the instructor, Maj. Shelby Jones of the Ohio National Guard, replied, "Life's not fair."

Surprisingly, in the first two classes, the winning group had the fewest supplies. Yet it managed to work as a team.

Even students who didn't triumph in the tower-building contest took pride in what

they had accomplished.

"We worked together," said Kellie Harder, 15. "We talked about it, and we listened to each other. We just dealt with what we had."

In addition to fairness, the students learned other skills they'll use the rest of their lives, she said.

Such qualities are found among the "six pillars of character"—trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship—taught by the Guard as part of its Higher Ground program.

Each pillar is made up of traits that students are encouraged to adopt: Trustworthiness, for example, includes integrity, honesty, reliability and loyalty. Citizenship encompasses respect for authority.

The program is based on the Character Counts! curriculum of the Josephson Institute of Ethics in Marina del Rey, Calif.

To help prevent school violence, the in-

stitute founded a national partnership of about 500 organizations, called the Character Counts! Coalition, dedicated to helping students develop character.

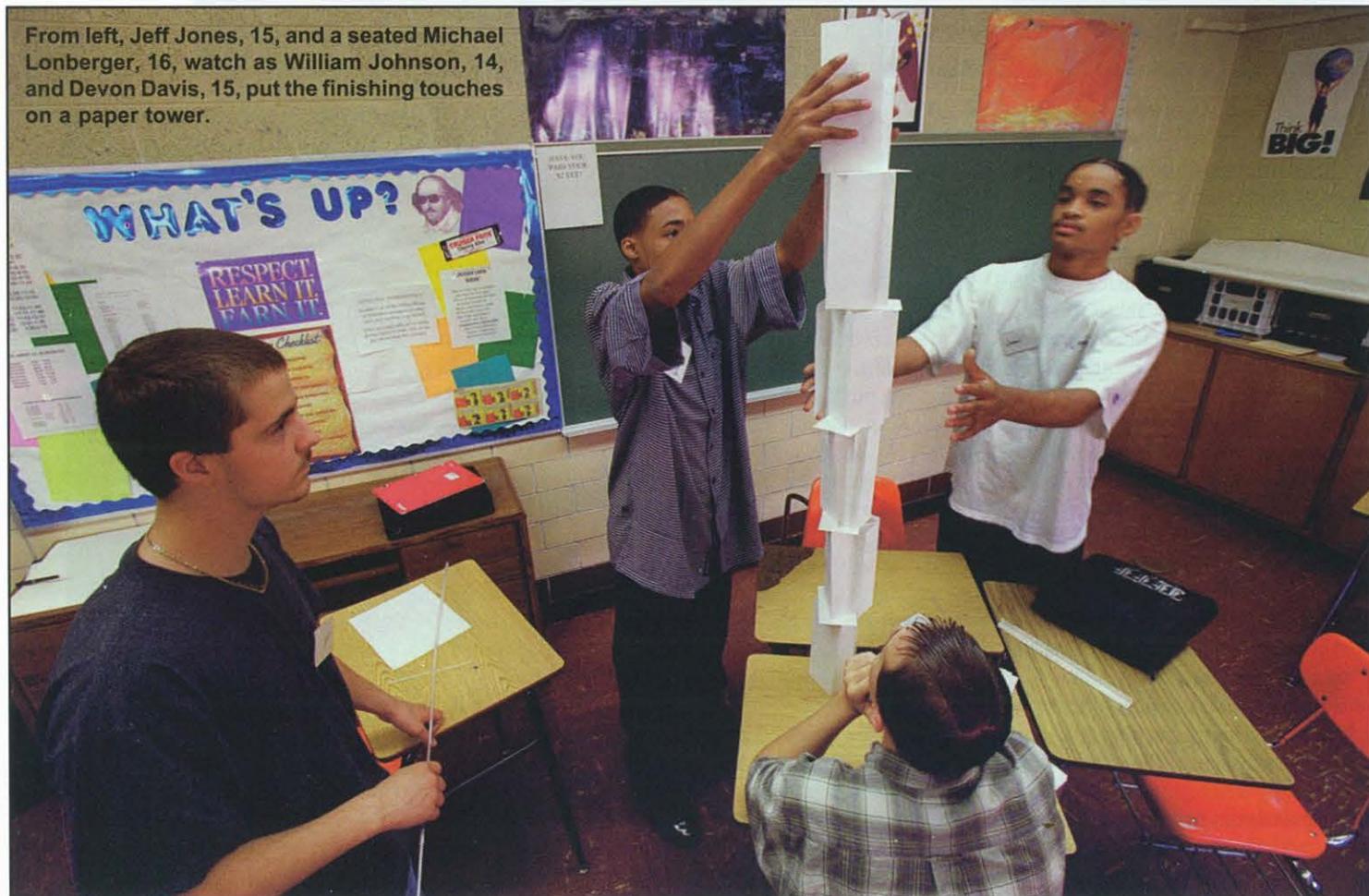
Coalition members in Ohio include the Akron and Toledo public schools, along with those in Brook Park, Girard, Lima, Painesville, Perrysburg, Sandusky and Stow, said Julie Dwyer, national director.

YMCAs in Canton and Cincinnati also participate, she said.

Another member, the Ohio National Guard, has trained 30 facilitators to teach Higher Ground in selected schools around the state, including Groveport Madison Freshman School.

Ninety students there are forgoing English once a week to learn from Jones, commander of the 121st Air Refueling Wing's Security Forces Squadron and 1st Lt. Phil McGonagill, Ohio National Guard Drug Demand Reduction Program administrator.

From left, Jeff Jones, 15, and a seated Michael Lonberger, 16, watch as William Johnson, 14, and Devon Davis, 15, put the finishing touches on a paper tower.



# character

*"This is not the first generation to be tormented or teased, but this is the first generation to become homicidal when it occurs."*

—Michael S. Josephson, Josephson School of Ethics

As another Groveport class tackled the same exercise, another team sought to build a tower with index cards and straws.

Each of the four teammates, eager to tell what he had gleaned, respectfully awaited his turn to speak afterward.

"We've learned how important responsibilities are," said William Johnson, 14.

"And to treat others with fairness and respect," said Devon Davis, 15.

"People treat you with respect, and that's nice," said Michael Lonberger, 16.

Such lessons don't always come easy to high-school students struggling to figure out their places in the world, English teacher Shelley Holley said.

In the past couple of months, though, she has noticed a change in her students: They are less argumentative.

"We believe this class is causing kids to think," she said. "Often kids don't have a lot of self-control, and our kids come to school with so many issues."

To make time for the Higher Ground

program, Holley gave up one day of English class a week for the two-month course.

"We wanted some kind of team-building activity because we noticed the kids seemed to be lacking a moral rudder," she said.

Teaching mutual respect goes a long way toward curbing school violence, said Michael S. Josephson, president of the institute.

"This is not the first generation to be tormented or teased," he said from his California office, "but this is the first generation to become homicidal when it occurs."

Many teen-agers, and especially boys, harbor unhealthy attitudes about violence, according to an institute survey last year of more than 15,000 teens.

At the same time, some students—more than one in three—don't feel safe at school.

"Schools should be a safe place, and many of the students who carried weapons said they did so for self-protection," Josephson said.

His survey of middle- and high-school students found that 43 percent of high-school males and 37 percent of middle-school boys see no problem with striking or threatening someone who makes them angry.

Some 19 percent of females agree.

An even higher percentage actually resorts to violence: 75 percent of the boys and more than 60 percent of the girls surveyed said they had hit someone in the past year out of anger.

Among the other findings in regard to male students:

\* More than one in five, or 21 percent, of those in high school and 15 percent of those in middle school had taken a weapon to school at least once in the past year.

\* Sixty percent in high school and 31 percent in middle school said they could get hold of a gun; 69 percent and 27 percent said they could obtain drugs.



**1LT Phil McGonagill talks to students at Groveport Freshman School as part of the Higher Ground program, which teaches teen-agers about character.**

\* Nineteen percent and 9 percent had gone to school drunk at least once in the past year.

Students who admitted being under the influence at school, the survey found, were substantially more likely than their classmates to engage in violence and carry weapons.

Despite such results, Groveport students in Higher Ground spoke of feeling safe at their school.

They don't fear violence, they said, in part because of the respect that the program encourages.

"This gets everybody involved," Lonberger said.

"And they won't think about blowing up the school," Davis said.

Often, Principal Christopher A. Qualls said, school violence results from a feeling of disenfranchisement. He hopes to expand Higher Ground to include all 440 Freshman School students next year.

"Who can argue against teaching kids to respect themselves and others, and authority?" ■

**EDITOR'S NOTE:** *Story by Eileen Dempsey/Photos by Fred Squillante. Reprinted with permission from "The Columbus Dispatch." For more information on how guardmembers can implement Character Counts in a local school, phone 1st Lt. Phil McGonagill at (614) 336-6590*

## Positive traits

A person of character is someone who:

- \* Engenders admiration and respect.
- \* Knows the difference between right and wrong, and tries to choose right.
- \* Sets a good example.
- \* Tries to make the world better.
- \* Lives life according to the "six pillars of character" — trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship.

*Source: Character Counts! Coalition, a project of the Josephson Institute of Ethics*

# Ready or not

Units try to prepare new recruits for boot camp

Story by Spc. Michelle Morgan  
HQ STARC (-)

A lone soldier stood in a crowd at the Canfield Fair, hat over his heart while the flag was lowered to half-mast. As the last note of the trumpet faded, other sounds began to intrude—the music of the carousel, children laughing and the bark of a Marine Corps colonel demanding to know why a soldier in the Ohio Army National Guard was not saluting the flag while Taps was being played.

“At first, I had no idea that she was yelling at me,” recalled Pvt. Donald Moffett of the 838th Military Police Company, Austintown. “Then it took me a little while to figure out *why* she was yelling at me. I have always taken my hat off during the national anthem, so I assumed I was doing the right thing.”

Though Moffett was wearing a uniform issued by his unit, he was unaware of the military custom of “presenting arms” during the raising and lowering of the colors. He had joined the Guard only two months before the veterans ceremony and had not yet attended basic training.

“I can guarantee that I will never forget to salute the flag again,” he asserted.

Saluting the flag, addressing officers as “sir” or “ma’am” and even taking off headgear when entering a building becomes second nature to a soldier after eight weeks of basic training. But for the new recruit waiting to ship to boot camp, even the most basic military courtesies may seem awkward or difficult to learn. Many new members of the National Guard find themselves placed in a military setting for several months before they are scheduled to attend basic training. Though they may look the part, dressed in brand new BDUs, these guardmembers often need to turn to their fellow soldiers to understand how to react in any given situation.

Ultimately, a few days at basic training answers most questions new soldiers may have regarding military protocol, though the very thought of boot camp has stopped



Photo by SPC Michelle Morgan, HQ STARC (-)

many potential recruits from signing the dotted line. Vivid images come to mind for both those who have made it through basic and those who have only heard about it.

Soldiers who have graduated basic training usually remember endless days on the firing range, hours of drill and ceremony practice, zero-dark-thirty wake-up calls for physical training and less-than-congenial drill sergeants barking orders the entire eight weeks. Those who have yet to endure the experience draw on images from old war movies or perhaps television’s new reality television show—*Boot Camp*—filled with

blanket parties and drill instructors who will do anything they feel necessary to turn a civilian into a soldier.

Even once new enlistees commit to military service, too many either quit before leaving for basic training or are emotionally and physically unprepared once reaching it.

“We used to get lots of calls from concerned moms and dads because their child did not know what to expect and they saw normal things as problems,” said Capt. Hal Tevis, training officer with the 2-174th Air Defense Artillery Battalion, McConnellsville. “They got to basic training and were unable to handle the



Photo by SPC Haraz N. Ghanbari, HQ STARC (-)

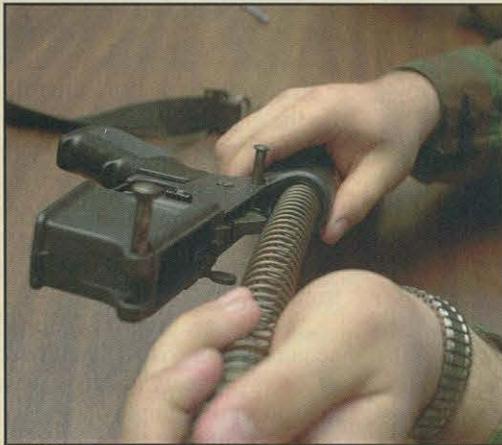


Photo by SPC Haraz N. Ghanbari, HQ STARC (-)

**OPPOSITE PAGE: SPC Nick Wilfong supervises new recruit Christopher Dean as he checks the oil on a humvee as part of a vehicle maintenance class. ABOVE: SGT Anthony Weeda corrects the salute of PVT Christopher Neville. LEFT: A new recruit disassembles an M-16 rifle to become familiar with the weapon and its parts.**

adjusting to the pressures of basic training easier. "The more they know going in, the easier basic training will be.

"Our program can be tailored to fit individual needs, because the number of drill weekends each soldier has before leaving for basic varies," Robinson said. "If they have early ship dates, we work with them individually to try to teach them as much as possible."

Pvt. Taylor Watson, B Battery, 2-174th ADA, participated in a pre-basic class for six months and the knowledge he took with him made his adjustment to boot camp much easier. "I was able to help my battle buddies with things like facing movements. Because I had a taste of what it would be like, I also knew things like not to turn and look directly at the sergeants when they were talking to me," he said. According to Watson, understanding these simple concepts saved him from some of the discipline that others in his class faced.

Moffett, now a basic training graduate, agreed that the pre-basic classes saved him innumerable times from "corrective action through physical exercise." Simple things like learning "Be My Little General," a saying used to remember the four ranks of general from lowest to highest, helped him

get through the chow line without incident when his classmates were faltering before their drill sergeants.

"I wish my (pre-basic) instructors would have 'gotten in my face' before sending me off," Moffett said. "That was really the only thing that I was not prepared for." Like Watson, Moffett was able to help his classmates because many soldiering skills were already part of him.

New enlistees in McConnellsville watch movies of real basic training activities so that they can see what they will be living through. They also are given the opportunity to ask questions of graduates fresh from boot camp. "Soldiers who have recently returned from training get their brains picked," said Avenger Battalion Command Sgt. Maj. Stanley Cich.

After listening to tales from others who have lived through basic, those in the pre-basic programs believe that they have a definite advantage over their peers. "We know what to expect now...there'll be a lot less pressure," said Pvt. Bryan Haber, 1487th Transportation Company, Eaton.

Without these programs, many new soldiers would be shipping out with no concept of military life.

The success rate of this program for the 2-174th has been phenomenal according to Tevis. Of the last 125 soldiers who joined the Avenger battalion, only three soldiers did not successfully complete basic and all three failures were due to injuries. "They go in with the proper attitude, and don't just quit and go home," said Cich, who has coordinated the program in McConnellsville for the past five years.

Though there is no possible way to prepare an individual for every situation encountered during boot camp, pre-basic instructors believe that introducing some military concepts and setting realistic expectations will help their soldiers through. Ideally, when the commands "fall in" or "order arms" are issued, soldiers who have received pre-basic training will automatically respond. This conditioned response will save the soldier from unwanted attention from their drill sergeants.

"Under stress you instinctively revert to the way you trained," said Sgt. Anthony Weeda, C Battery, 2-174th ADA. "(Though) we all know that no matter how prepared an individual is, basic training will be stressful." ■

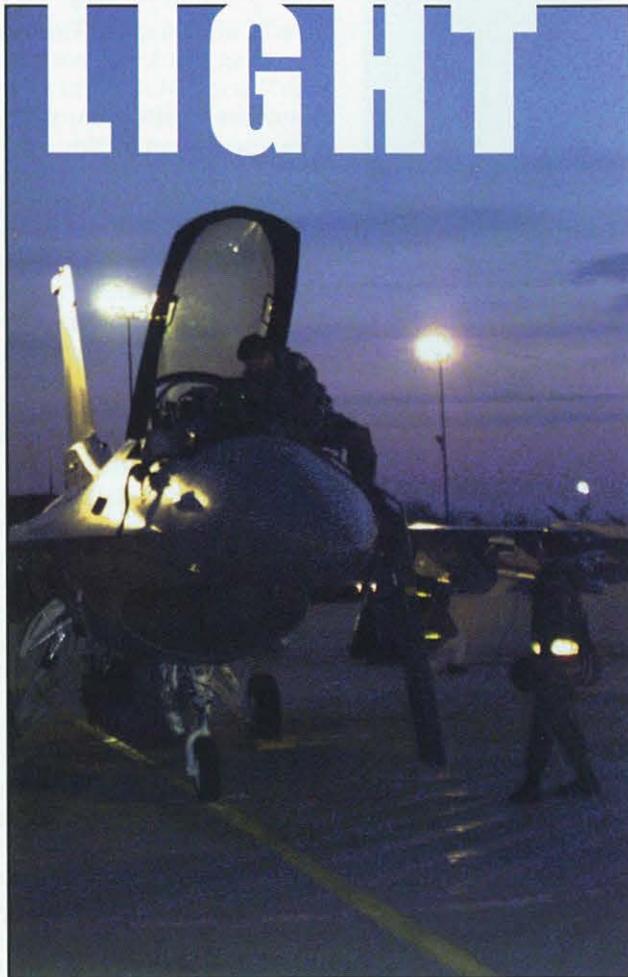
constant stress."

Within the Ohio Army National Guard, some multi-unit armories, battalions and individual units instituted "pre-basic" training programs to combat this recruiting and retention problem.

Because these programs are not run at the state level, there are slight variations in the curriculum, but the purpose is the same throughout—to acclimate new soldiers to military life. In the McConnellsville, Eaton and Austintown armories, the new enlistees spend one day of each drill weekend working with their section and the other in pre-basic classes. All three programs teach new enlistees general orders, drill and ceremonies, chain of command, rank recognition and M-16 rifle familiarization.

"In a low-stress environment, we attempt to teach non-prior service soldiers many of the things they will be required to know before they can graduate from basic," said Spc. Claudia Robinson, 2-174th ADA. Over time, the new soldier will learn soldiering skills that will make

# Between DARKNESS & LIGHT



*Toledo's 180th Fighter  
Wing prepares better for  
nighttime operations,  
wartime missions*

Story by Tech. Sgt. Joe Poirier  
Photos by Master Sgt. Marvin Johnson

## 180th Fighter Wing

In recent years, the Air National Guard has seen greater involvement in supporting U.S. military contingency operations around the world.

That increased responsibility—coupled with the fact that the majority of air battles are fought at night—has brought Air Force officials to the realization that units need to become more proficient and capable in nighttime operations to prepare better for wartime missions.

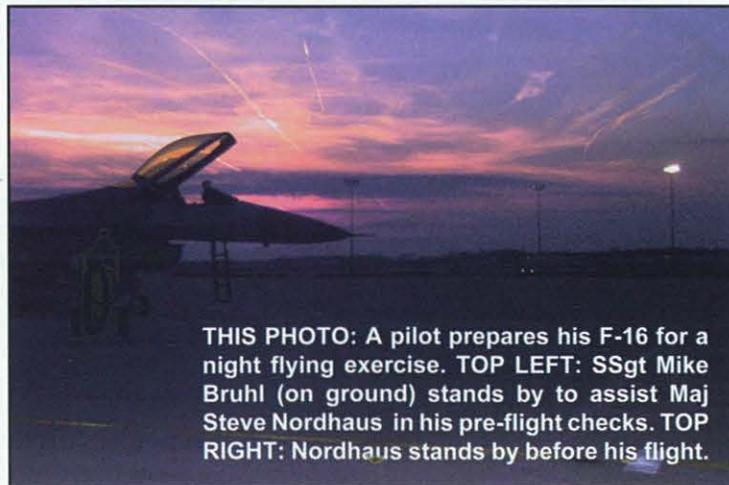
Toledo's 180th Fighter Wing had first-hand experience during its most recent deployment to Incirlik Air Base, Turkey, where it was the first unit to fly at night in Operation Northern Watch, according to Capt. Mike Timbrook, 180th FW chief of safety. The 180th has deployed overseas four

times in the past few years to patrol the post-Gulf War no-fly zone over northern Iraq.

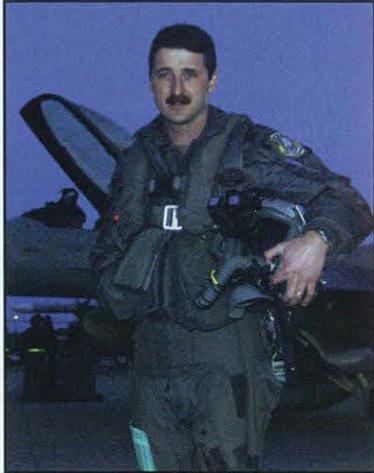
The 180th's deployment to Turkey, he said, helped establish the importance of training with Night Vision Goggles (NVGs) to enhance night flying. F-16 fighter jet pilots now must be qualified on NVGs as part of their training requirements.

Recognizing this as a top priority for the unit, 180th leadership designated the past March Unit Training Assembly (UTA) for conducting "night flying training," accompanied by pilots' use of NVGs, which work near the infrared light spectrum.

"NVGs are used to help pilots acquire better visual identification of enemy threats and targets, and help the pilot employ the F-16 at night," Timbrook said. "NVGs also make it easier to fly in formations and aid in the ability to identify muzzle flashes and bullet tracers in combat situations.



THIS PHOTO: A pilot prepares his F-16 for a night flying exercise. TOP LEFT: SSgt Mike Bruhl (on ground) stands by to assist Maj Steve Nordhaus in his pre-flight checks. TOP RIGHT: Nordhaus stands by before his flight.



“The NVGs help make flying at night safer by enhancing vision and turning night into day.”

NVGs look similar to a pair of binoculars, and clip on to a pilot’s helmet with a ball-bearing-type lock. Looking through the device correctly will allow a person to see in the dark as if it were day.

The pilots start with extensive training on the ground to become familiar with the equipment before they step into the cockpit. Additional night flying training missions are then necessary to become fully qualified. Most training in the air is conducted in pairs of aircraft to simulate real-world scenarios more closely.

Though the NVGs have some limitations, such as the narrowness of their scope and sight limitation to two colors—light green on a dark green background—many pilots who have completed the training said the benefits outweigh the limitations.

“Once I got used to the NVGs, I wouldn’t want to fly (at night) without them,” 1st Lt. Brett Kaufman said.

By the end of spring, all 180th pilots were scheduled to be fully qualified on the NVGs. ■

## Night vision goggles help pilots beat the night

**N**ight vision goggles won’t turn night into day, but the pilots who use the goggles say nothing yet beats them for seeing foes in the dark.

The high-tech goggles—which are mounted on the pilot’s helmet—greatly amplify even the most minute sources of light, effectively letting its user see objects clearly at night at distances of up to several hundred yards in the absence of any artificial light. People, buildings, vehicles and details of the landscape viewed through a modern night vision system appear almost as if illuminated while the same objects viewed with a naked eye would appear only as indistinct shadows, or might not be visible at all.

In order to understand how any night vision device works, it can be compared to a video camera but a very special one, with an extremely high sensitivity to light. All night vision systems provide the viewer with electronically enhanced viewing. When pilots use a night vision scope, they are not actually viewing the scene before them, but instead they are viewing a video image of that scene.

NVG use in the Air Force is being driven by customer demand, and the added capabilities the goggles give pilots make them “a critical addition to our repertoire,” said Air Force Reserve Col. Jim Mills, commander of the 917th Operations Group at Barksdale Air Force Base, La.

“If the Army wants to fight 24 hours a day, we’ve got to be able to support them 24-hours a day. NVGs now give us the capability.”

The technology for seeing at night “had not advanced much” since the first crude instruments were introduced during the Vietnam War. However, the NVGs are ushering in a new era for nighttime flying in the Air Force, Mills said.

Before the arrival of NVGs, pilots would have to fly to a proposed target and drop



The view a pilot sees through night vision goggles appears circular, and in varying shades of green.

flares where they thought there would be targets, and then hope to find and destroy them before the flares went out. But the same flares that lit up targets could also light up the attackers.

“When your flares were gone, you couldn’t look for anything else—so you went home,” said Capt. Bruce Miller, an A-10 pilot from Fort Worth, Texas. “Using the current generation of NVGs is like day flying—but everything looks green,” he said.

The goggles are proving so effective that Mills said pilots can spot small objects from miles away. “If you see a guy smoking a cigarette, he’s toast. You know exactly where he is,” he said.

But adapting to the goggles takes time and pilots have to learn to look and identify things differently than they do in daylight. It is like looking through unmagnified binoculars at an eerie green world with different shades of light and shadows, Miller said. “You don’t have all the visual cues you have in daytime flying, especially the depth perception.” AIR FORCE PRINT NEWS/SIERRA PACIFIC INNOVATIONS WEBSITE

# A solemn mission

*Ohio Air Guard rallies to support families of fallen comrades*

**M**embers from several Ohio Air National Guard units, along with other guardmembers nationwide, rallied to support grief-stricken families and friends of 21 National Guard personnel killed March 3 in the crash of a C-23 Sherpa twin-engine transport near Unadilla, Ga., 30 miles south of Macon.

A crisis center was set up in Virginia Beach, Va., to help survivors cope with their loss of 18 Virginia Air National Guard civil engineers, officials reported. Chaplains and family support representatives fanned out across Florida to comfort the families of the three-member Army National Guard flight crew, a Florida Guard spokesman said.

Lt. Col. Keith Bohley and Maj. Robert Jackson, chaplains with the 179th Airlift Wing, Mansfield, were among the chaplains dispatched to counsel grieving families and servicemembers, as was Col. Vergel L. Lattimore of Headquarters, Ohio Air National Guard, Columbus.

Two members of the 179th's Honor Guard, Master Sgt. Roger Williams and Staff Sgt. Joshua Blakley, also were sent to Virginia.

The 179th also provided one of the unit's C-130 aircraft to transport members of the 200th RED HORSE Squadron, Port Clinton, as well as Headquarters, Ohio Air National Guard, to memorial ceremonies in Virginia on March 10.

"I can honestly state that the way the Air Force—active, Guard and Reserve—as well as the Virginia Beach community came together to honor these fallen warriors was incredibly impressive and ex-

remely reassuring," said Col. Richard Brazeau, 200th RED HORSE commander, who was among unit members who attended the services. "Our humble prayers and compassion go out to the families and to our brothers and sisters of the 203rd RED HORSE Flight."

Eighteen of the deceased guardmembers were members of the 203rd RED HORSE Flight, Virginia Beach, and were flying home through heavy rain after two weeks of annual training at Hurlburt Field, Fla. The three-member Army Guard aircrew was assigned to Detachment 1, 1st Battalion, 171st Aviation in Lakeland, Fla.

No one survived the crash. National Guard historians called it among the worst peacetime tragedies in the Guard's 364-year history. The cause of the crash remains under investigation.

President Bush, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and the Army and Air Force chiefs of staff extended condolences to the survivors.

"The tragic loss...reminds us of the sacrifices made each and every day by all of our men and women in uniform," Bush said. "The price of freedom is never free. (The crash) reminds us that it is sometimes unspeakably high."

RED HORSE is an Air Force acronym for Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron, Engineer. The civil engineer units erect tent cities and other facilities for troops in the field. AIR FORCE PRINT NEWS/ADJUTANT GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE



U.S. Air Force photo by John Sidoriak

Honor guard members at Dover Air Force Base, Del., prepare caskets carrying the remains of 21 guardmembers killed as a result of an Army C-23 Sherpa twin-engine airplane crash March 3 in Georgia.

## In Memoriam

We always seek a reason why  
A loved one has to go,  
We search for answers desperately  
But still we cannot know.

And Charging Charlie seeks to find  
Among the pain and tears;  
Why God could take these Horsemen  
So early in their years.

Perhaps God needs to bridge the stars  
Or light some darkened day;  
Or build a framework out of steel  
To brace the Milky Way.

Or does he need a pipeline  
Taking water to the Sun?  
He's got the Horsemen with Him now  
That job would soon be done.

Poor Charging Charlie's sadder now,  
His stable's not as full.  
And other Horsemen grieve and weep  
But deployments they will pull

Those Horsemen are still with us.  
They'll be on every tour.  
To watch and guide and help us out;  
On that you can be sure.

—by SMSgt Gary Rhoads  
201st RED HORSE Squadron  
Pennsylvania Air National Guard



Officers and noncommissioned officers representing various units comprising the 37th Armor Brigade plan annual training movement with the help of an enlarged topographical map of Camp Grayling, Mich., on the floor of the Springfield Armory.

## Armor Brigade elements 'rock' into AT '01

Story and photo by Sgt. 1st Class Bob Mullins  
HQ STARC (-)

The 237th Forward Support Battalion, 38th Division Support Command, leaves few stones unturned when it comes to training coordination.

Annual Training 2001 at Camp Grayling, Mich., will be the second "visit" this year to the familiar National Guard training site up north for members of the 237th FSB and key personnel in other subordinate units of the Ohio Army National Guard's 37th Armor Brigade. The first visit was made in the form of a "rock drill" held at the Springfield Armory in mid-April.

The training exercise, in its second year, is intended to simulate the geography of Camp Grayling. The Grayling model, which covered nearly the entire drill floor, came complete with hills, roads, streams and lakes. Each feature is color coded and grid coordinates line the perimeter of the large map. Impact areas are also indicated.

During the daylong training, commanders, other key officers and noncommissioned officers

went through the daily schedule verbally to ensure that others who will also be depending on them at Grayling are aware of all movements.

Each soldier representing a unit of the brigade corresponds actions in the operations order with actual movement to that location on the armory-floor map where the unit will be. While reading through the schedule, personnel are required to begin at the staging area in Grayling's Engineer Valley and walk their predetermined routes to their final destination which will be their unit areas during annual training.

Col. Matthew L. Kambic, 37th Armor Brigade commander said "...the rehearsal sets the condition for setting the standard." He added that "every soldier who will be participating in Annual Training 2001 has significance to the mission."

Joining the 237th for the rock drill rehearsal were personnel from the 1-107th Armor Battalion, 2-107th Cavalry Squadron, 1-134th Field Artillery Battalion, 112th Engineer Battalion and 145th Regiment, Regional Training Institute.

The importance for well-coordinated logistical support and other issues was not lost on personnel who participated in the rock drill. Emphasizing the critical need for supplies such as food, water and ammunition, leaders identified resupply points and those in

charge of them. During annual training at Camp Grayling, the 237th will be tasked with establishing a brigade support area, or BSA, in the field which will be a hub for services including direct support maintenance and medical services in addition to logistics.

First Lt. Jodie McFee, training officer for the 237th FSB said, "the rehearsal was much improved over last year. This year each unit was able to preview their role, day-by-day." ■

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"...the rehearsal sets the condition for setting the standard."

— COL Matthew L. Kambic,  
37th Armor Brigade commander

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# Retiree reunion slated for September at Camp Perry

The Ohio National Guard Association retirees and 37th Infantry Division Veterans Association will hold a combined reunion Sept. 14-16 at Camp Perry, near Port Clinton.

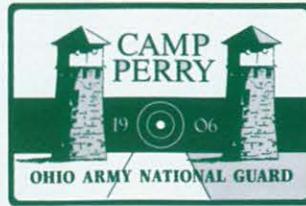
"Hopefully, this union will afford greater opportunities for many additional retirees to come together to renew old acquaintances and friendships," said Maj. Gen. John H. Smith, state adjutant general.

The Ohio Guard continues to undergo changes in force structure and equipment, new facilities, and in state-of-the-art training, simulation and automation technology. An overview will be presented to bring retirees up to date with current initiatives and

developments throughout the ONG as a whole, as well as at the National Guard Bureau level.

Ample time will be provided for retirees to renew old acquaintances and observe the continuous facilities improvements that Camp Perry provides to train, house and take care of ONG soldiers and airmen.

"I am encouraging as many retirees as possible to attend the social activities connected with this year's event, thus providing opportunity to discuss the latest information on (retirees') former units and current



issues facing today's leaders," Smith said. "I look forward to meeting many (retirees) at this enjoyable and informative event. I hope we can explore ways in which retirees can contribute to National Guard activities in the future."

The dress for evening activities and ladies luncheon is casual. People planning to attend should be aware that Camp Perry weather in mid-September may be mild and chilly.

It should be noted that minimal separate mailings will be mailed to retirees this year. To

register, complete the registration form below and return it to the Adjutant General's Department.

Individual, group and corporate sponsors for the Sept. 14 golf outing are welcome. To sponsor a golf hole for \$50 or \$75, contact Jerry Wilson at the ONGA via phone at (800) 642-6642 when making golf reservations.

The senior Army and Air Guard commander and command sergeant major conference, normally held in conjunction with the annual retiree reunion, may be held on a different weekend this year. However, many commanders and command sergeants major will be present at the reunion. MG DAVID T. HARTLEY, ADJUTANT GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT

## REGISTRATION FORM

This year, lodging arrangements will be handled directly by Camp Perry Clubhouse Manager Debbie Wilson. Please call the clubhouse at (614) 336-6214 to reserve your room. Payment for lodging will be made directly to the clubhouse manager upon check-in or checkout, at your convenience. Payment for all other costs will be made in accordance with the instructions below.

**NOTE:** A cash bar will be provided for all attendees

Friday night reception at @ \$6.50 per person (with CASH bar) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Ladies Luncheon @ \$20 per person (includes tax and tip) at Mon Ami Restaurant/Winery, buffet-style luncheon \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Saturday night buffet @ \$14.50 per person (with CASH bar) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Sunday morning continental breakfast @ \$4 per person \$ \_\_\_\_\_

CHECK PAYABLE TO: "ONG RETIREES FUND" ENCLOSED IN THE AMOUNT OF: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

ARRIVAL TIME & DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME/RANK: \_\_\_\_\_

GUEST'S NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

NEW ADDRESS?: Y or N (Circle one)

PHONE : ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ NUMBER IN PARTY: \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete this form and return **NO LATER THAN AUG. 24** to:

The Adjutant General's Department  
ATTN: AGOH-Z (MG Hartley)  
2825 W. Dublin Granville Road  
Columbus, Ohio 43235-2789

## AGENDA

### FRIDAY, SEPT. 14, 2001

- 11:00 a.m. Golf Outing, Oak Harbor; for reservation please call Mr. Jerry Wilson, ONGA, (800) 642-6642
- 7:00 p.m. Adjutant General's Reception and 37th DVA Reception, Convention Center

### SATURDAY, SEPT. 15, 2001

- 10:30 a.m. Self-Guided Tour, New Facilities, Open House
- 11:00 a.m. Ladies Board Bus at Convention Center
- 11:50 a.m. Ladies Luncheon, Mon Ami Restaurant
- 1:00 p.m. Refreshments, Convention Center
- 2:00 p.m. State of the Ohio National Guard Briefing for Retirees and Spouses, Convention Center
- 5:00 p.m. Retreat Ceremony (Flag Pole, Parade Field)
- 5:30 p.m. Refreshments, Convention Center (CASH BAR)
- 6:30 p.m. Buffet Dinner, Convention Center
- 7:30 p.m. 37th DVA Installation Ceremony
- 8:00 p.m. Refreshments and Dancing, Convention Center

### SUNDAY, SEPT. 16, 2001

- 7-10 a.m. Continental Breakfast, Convention Center

### BRIEFING AGENDA

#### SATURDAY, SEPT. 15, 2001

- |           |                              |                             |
|-----------|------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 2:00 p.m. | Welcome                      | Maj Gen Smith               |
| 2:05 p.m. | Air National Guard Update    | Maj Gen Sullivan            |
| 2:20 p.m. | Army National Guard Update   | BG Young                    |
| 2:35 p.m. | Soldier/Airman Update        | CSM Huffman/<br>CMSgt Smith |
| 3:00 p.m. | 37th Division Reunion Update | COL (R) Sedlacko            |
| 3:15 p.m. | Comments, Q&A                | Maj Gen Smith               |
| 3:30 p.m. | *TRICARE Update              | Maj Gen Sullivan            |

\*TRICARE briefing for individuals who wish to remain for the update.



Photos by Scott Heckel, Canton Repository

LEFT: With a National Guard humvee in the background, Marlinton wrestlers Jeff Kiko (left) and Al Raber work on takedown moves during a practice session in the Alliance Armory. BELOW: Marlinton wrestlers begin a practice by running laps around the inside of the armory, home to the soldiers of Bravo Battery, 1-134th Field Artillery Battalion.

# Guard unit comes to wrestlers' rescue

Story by Jim Thomas  
Canton Repository

**N**ot having a place to practice, that could be considered more than a little distraction for a wrestler, especially a senior set in his ways. Hallways, that is.

Alliance's Marlinton High School was faced with that predicament when school began this year. The anticipated opening of the school's new wrestling room had not materialized. Worse, the Duker's old practice room, promised for use as a schoolroom, was unavailable.

"We were initially supposed to have the new wrestling room built for this year," Marlinton wrestling coach Curt Hamilton said. "But through no fault of our administration, there were snags with the contractors and such, as is always the case in building."

Enter—military drum roll, please—the Ohio Army National Guard.

"Our athletic director and I sat down and brainstormed," Hamilton said. "We knew the (unit) had done things for Marlinton in the past."

So early in the fall, the soldiers from Bravo Battery, 1-134th Field Artillery Battalion, and the students worked hand-in-hand, loading the heavy, awkward wrestling mats on to the National Guard cargo trucks, then transporting them to the spacious Alliance armory.

It was an arrangement that benefited the Marlinton wrestlers, who remained conditioned and focused enough to win their first Northeastern Buckeye Conference title since 1994, going 7-0 in their league.

It also has aided the Ohio Army National Guard, which has reaped the reward of at least three Marlinton wrestlers joining its ranks—seniors Chad Peterson and Andy Sammons both enlisted as howitzer cannon crew members in Bravo Battery; and Jonn Hickerson enlisted as a calvary scout in Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1-107th Calvary, Stow.

"On the first day that the wrestlers began utilizing the Alliance

Armory, I jokingly told the team that we needed a sacrificial lamb and that at least one wrestler should join the National Guard in return for letting them utilize our facilities," said Sgt. 1st Class Rick Beadles, the local Army Guard recruiter. "To my amazement, not one, but three wrestlers have joined the National Guard in the past four months."

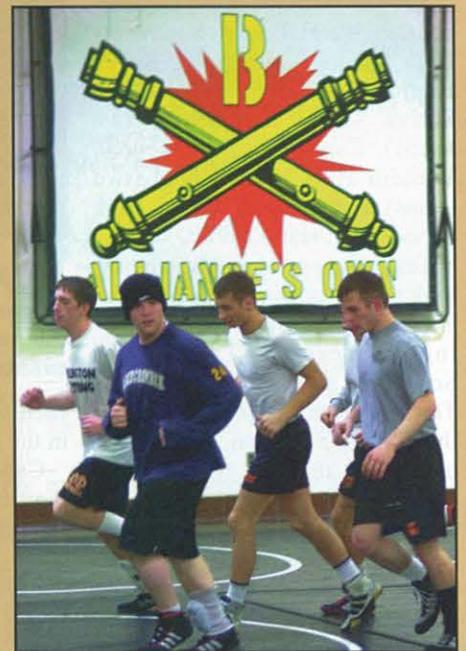
A fellow classmate of the four, Kyle Hall, actually started the trend by joining Bravo Battery last December following a J.O.G.S. (Jobs For Ohio Graduates) presentation by Beadles. Most recently another Marlinton classmate, John Montgomery, also joined Bravo Battery.

"I knew nothing about it," Peterson said of the Army National Guard. "When they started getting into money for college, benefits, I said why not. I get college for free (through the 100-percent tuition-paid Ohio National Guard Scholarship Program), and get paid while you go there."

Hamilton noted the similarities between wrestling and the military.

"I can see a lot of parallels here—the discipline, focus, the physical training and athleticism. All of that, Chad has. I think Chad will do a great job in the National Guard."

Added Beadles: "By allowing the high school to utilize the armory, we've planted a seed in the community. They now know that the National Guard is alive and well in Alliance, Ohio." ■



# Lorain Southview named top JROTC Color Guard team

Story by Sgt. J.R. Lewis  
HQ STARC (-)

Nine spit-and-polished teams squared off on the drill floor of Beightler Armory in the fourth annual Junior ROTC Color Guard Competition March 3 in Columbus.

"You are the future of the military," Command Sgt. Maj. Craig Huffman told the group as the event kicked off. Huffman helped host the event on behalf of the Ohio Army National Guard State Command Sergeant Major's Office.

According to event organizers, judges chose top placers using criteria published in Army Field Manual 22-5, *Drill and Ceremonies*.

Schools participating in the competition were: Lorain Southview High School (two teams), Rayen High School, Columbus West High School, Kenton High School (two teams), Carrollton High School, Western Hills High School (two teams) and Colonel White High School (two teams).

Team A from Lorain Southview took third place in the event, with Team B from Colonel White coming in second. The Lorain Southview accolades continued as Team B from the school showed the military precision, bearing and excellence that led to judges to award the team first place.

Each of the top three teams were presented with an engraved plaque at the end of the competition; the plaques also were re-presented to the teams in ceremonies held at



Photo by SPC Haraz N. Ghanbari, HQ STARC (-)

**ABOVE:** Teams A and B from Lorain Southview High School place 3rd and 1st, respectively. **RIGHT:** SSG Tony Six judges the competition. **BELOW:** Casing the colors was one of the events critiqued during the JROTC Color Guard Competition.

each of their high schools later in the school year.

Cadet Jessica Tomazic, a senior member of the first-place Lorain Southview team, said it takes "endless hours" of practice to achieve the precision necessary to be successful in color guard competitions. But, said

Tomazic, who will be headed to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point this fall, the No. 1 ingredient for winning teams is military bearing.

"I've seen teams screw up a sequence but have their military bearing bring them through," Tomazic said.

Retired Maj. Ordell Graves, commander of the Colonel White teams, said it is the spirit of competition and the tough road to excellence that motivates the cadets to give up their personal time and hold fundraising events to pay for uniform items and travel to events.

"This is what turns kids on," he said. "Competition to these kids is a driving force, just as it is in any sport." For example, Graves said that his teams raise an additional \$18,000-20,000 annually to supplement the funding offered by the Depart-



Photo by SGT J.R. Lewis, HQ STARC (-)



Photo by SGT J.R. Lewis, HQ STARC (-)

ment of the Army.

"You see it in their eyes. It's important for them to look good," said Graves, who has been involved in the JROTC program for 20 years. "This is their show and they know it."

The OHARNG's Southern State Honor Guard Team—comprised of Staff Sgts. Keith Hambel and Tony Six, Sgt. Richard Day and Spc. Bruno Diaz—served as judges for the drill competition. ■

## Infantryman takes to school classroom for OhioReads

Krista Henkle was in dire need of a few good men in uniform to help her students with their reading, and Staff Sgt. Ramon Walls eagerly accepted the challenge.

Once a week Walls, readiness NCO for Company E, 1-148th Infantry Battalion, Urbana, goes to Urbana North Elementary School to tutor first-grader Sheldon Johnson in reading as part of Gov. Bob Taft's statewide OhioReads program.

"I really appreciate him taking the time from his job and coming to help run this program," said Henkle, the school's OhioReads coordinator. "It's hard to find people that you can trust in the schools."

The program works primarily with first- and second-graders, Henkle said. The state gave North School a \$60,000 grant last March to fund its OhioReads program, which helps roughly 10 students with the assistance of volunteers like Walls.

It allows students to get individual attention from volunteers, something they rarely get in a classroom.

From 11 a.m. to noon each Tuesday, Walls works with Johnson in the school's library. Johnson's reading has improved tremendously since Walls began tutoring him last November, Henkle said.

Walls said helping make a difference in Johnson's education has been personally rewarding, but it's even more so because people in the community have the opportunity to see that there is more to the Ohio Army National Guard and Company E than just preparing for war and supporting domestic emergencies, he said.

"The support we give to our local communities is one of our greatest assets,"

Walls said. "Through the OhioReads program I have seen first-hand the positive impact we as citizen-soldiers can make in the lives of our young people."

Walls is more than just a tutor to Johnson and some of the other students in the program, Henkle said. He is a role model, and his presence alone makes the students behave themselves.

"His uniform helped a lot with the kids," Henkle said of Walls. "The first day he walked in the classroom, they were in awe. We feel very glad to have him here because a lot of the kids don't have male figures in their lives, and having him here means a lot to them. I think military personnel should be the kids' role models instead of some of those athletes." SPC ISMAIL TURAY JR., COMPANY E, 1-148TH INFANTRY BATTALION

## JROTC needs AGR, active retirees as instructors

Uncle Sam needs you. Again.

This time, he's seeking military men and women to instruct high school Junior ROTC students.

The Defense Department needs retired servicemembers to teach citizenship and leadership, while instilling self-esteem, teamwork and discipline. Pentagon officials say there will be about 1,200 openings over the next three years.

By fiscal 2005, the program will employ about 7,000 instructors, according to Navy Cmdr. Yvette BrownWahler, director for JROTC in DoD's Accession Policy Office at the Pentagon.

More than 450,000 students participate in JROTC units at 2,900 high schools across the country.

JROTC offers students an alternative lifestyle, BrownWahler said.

"Parents will come up and say to us, 'This program changed my daughter's life. She was into drugs and alcohol, on her way probably to jail. In one year, her whole life has turned around,'" she said.

Retired active-duty officers and enlisted personnel are eligible to apply, she said. There are no age limits.

For more information on JROTC instructor opportunities, go to DoD's Transportal website at [www.dodtransportal.org](http://www.dodtransportal.org). Then go to Internet Career Links and then to Specialized Job Search Links, where the four service branches are listed. AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

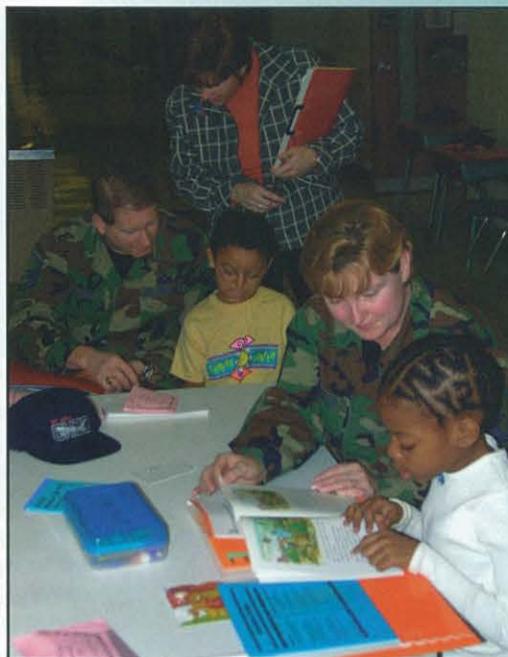


Photo by Scott McKenzie, Groveport Schools

MSGts Terry Hughes (far left) and Anna Lawless of the 121st Air Refueling Wing work with Dunloe Elementary third-graders Daniel Gleisinger (second from left) and Lynique Harris during OhioReads tutoring.

## 121st ARW provides much-needed tutors to local school

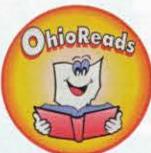
For 19 students at Dunloe Elementary School in Groveport, some members of the 121st Air Refueling Wing, Columbus, are making a difference by volunteering weekly for the OhioReads program at the school.

This marked the second year for the program at Dunloe, according to Carolyn Frisnora, the school's OhioReads site coordinator. Volunteers from Rickenbacker come every Tuesday and Thursday. It's a daily program in which other businesses and organizations participate at the school as well. "We are only working with third-graders now," said Frisnora, "because we don't have enough of a volunteer base to expand to the other grade levels just yet."

Students identified as below their grade level in reading are provided tutoring, said Frisnora, who develops weekly curriculums for each student in the program. "At the end of every lesson the volunteers give me feedback on whether the lesson's objectives were met," she said.

According to Frisnora, the 121st provides the most tutors among all the organizations that volunteer at the school. MSGT EALNOR GREY, HQ, OHIO ANG

For information on how Ohio Guardmembers or entire units can become involved in OhioReads and partner with a local school, phone 1LT Phil McGonagill at (614) 336-6426 or send an e-mail to [phil.mcgonagill@oh.ngb.army.mil](mailto:phil.mcgonagill@oh.ngb.army.mil).



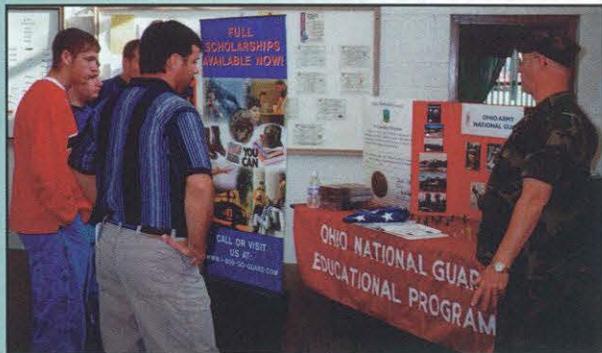


Photo by SGT (Ret.) Neal C. Powers, Co. A, 112th Engineer Bn.

**SFC David Rohrbaugh (right) speaks with prospective recruits at the Wooster armory open house, hosted by Alpha Company, 112th Engineer Battalion.**

## DoD names *Buckeye Guard* best in entire U.S. military

*Buckeye Guard* magazine, the official publication of the 15,000-member Ohio National Guard, recently placed first among all of the armed services of the United States in the 2000 Department of Defense Thomas Jefferson military journalism competition.

*Buckeye Guard*, in winning the category for "military-funded magazines," was selected over four active component magazines.

To win a Thomas Jefferson Award—the highest honor that can be bestowed in military journalism—entries must make an important contribution to the Defense Department's internal information objectives and must meet the highest standards of production, execution and professional excellence.

In March, *Buckeye Guard* placed first in the U.S. Army's Maj. Gen. Keith L. Ware Journalism Competition, after finishing second the year before and third in 1998. *Buckeye Guard* also has won the National Guard Bureau Media Contest the past three consecutive years, and seven of the past nine years, as the National Guard's premier magazine. ADJ. GEN. DEPT. PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

## Engineers' open house helps raise public awareness

For Wooster's Alpha Company, 112th Engineer Battalion, April 19 was a day to raise public awareness in the community about the Ohio Army National Guard. About 10 members of the mechanized engineers guided visitors and honored guests through the armory and

grounds where several military vehicles were on exhibit for viewing.

Also on display was an M-16 qualification simulator. Visiting students from three area high schools and a vocational career center tested their shooting skills against each other and guardmembers.

Special guests included Wayne County Commissioner Mark Sheppard, 416th Engineer Group Commander Col. Robert

Clouse and about 60 students from local high schools.

A catered meal was prepared by Ken's Catering Service of Orrville. Ken Showers is a retired member of A Company, having served in the 1970s through the early 1990s as a heavy equipment operator and later as a cook. SGT (RET.) NEAL POWERS, CO. A, 112TH ENGINEER BATTALION

## Ohio Naval Militia hosting events throughout summer

The Ohio Naval Militia is an organized, unarmed, all-volunteer state defense force serving under the direction of the Adjutant General's Department. The ONM can assist the Ohio National Guard during natural disasters or emergencies if called upon by the governor or adjutant general.

The Ohio Naval Militia's active mission is to patrol the government impact area off Camp Perry, near Port Clinton, during live-firing exercises to prevent unwarly boaters and fishermen from straying into the dangerous area and possibly getting injured. Members are trained in boat operation and navigation while on patrol.

By conducting continuous training on boats and in the classroom throughout the year, all ONM members have the opportunity to learn safe boating operations. All members are also given the opportunity to take the Ohio Boating Basic Education Course. Other training subjects include basic navigation, basic electronics, boat

handling and maintenance. Training is documented and can go toward obtaining a captain's license from the Coast Guard.

The organization is continually looking for new members between age 17 and 67. No prior military service is required.

ONM open houses at Camp Perry are scheduled for the following dates in 2001: June 16-17; July 7-8 and 21-22; Aug. 4-5 and 18-19; Sept. 15 and 22-23; and Oct. 6-7. Saturday times are from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday times are from noon to 3 p.m.

ONM Headquarters is in Building 2513 at Camp Perry. For more information, call (614) 336-7000 or send an e-mail to [acolby@sprintmail.com](mailto:acolby@sprintmail.com). LCDR AL COLBY, OHIO NAVAL MILITIA

## Infantry unit gears up for annual training at NTC

The infantrymen of Company A, 1-148th Infantry Battalion, Xenia, conducted company lanes training during their April 21-22 Unit Training Assembly on the Lebanon Correctional Institute grounds.

The unit has spent several of its previous drill weekends practicing platoon- and company-size training. In May, the unit incorporated use of helicopter airlifts to practice LZ (landing zone) maneuvers as well as procedures for exiting aircraft and moving into defensive positions.

Nearly all the year's training has been in preparation for the unit's two-week annual training deployment later this summer to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif. SGT DAVE SCHULTZ, CO. A, 1-148TH INFANTRY BATTALION

## GUARDING Columbus' first family



Photo by the Columbus Post

Columbus Mayor Michael Coleman and his wife, Frankie, met with members of the Ohio National Guard joint color guard who performed opening ceremonies for the recent "Spirited Sisters Expo 2001" at Veterans Memorial Auditorium in Columbus. With the Colemans are SFC Edwin Robinson (from left), SGT Fran Ulrich, SGT Lisa Powers, MSgt Ealnor Grey and MSG Rebecca Herzog.

## Several of state's Air Guard units earn top honors recently

Three Ohio Air National Guard units recently received Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards, while Columbus' 164th Weather Flight received the Collens Award during the Air National Guard Commanders Conference in April at Andrews Air Force Base, Md.

The award honors Maj. Gen. John W. Collens, the former commander at Air Weather Service. It is given each year to the most outstanding ANG weather flight. The 164th is one of 33 flights in the Air Guard's Weather Flight Program supporting Air Guard flying units and Army Guard units nationwide.

The 164th WF is the first weather flight ever to receive an overall "outstanding" rating in an operational readiness inspection (ORI). The inspection was conducted while supporting the Mississippi National Guard 155th Separate Armored Brigade during annual training in June 2000 at Camp Shelby, Miss.

Lt. Col. Steven P. Weaver, 164th commander, credited the flight's superior performance to Master Sgt. Darryl J. Walters, meteorological technician and the only full-time guardmember at the unit.

"His thorough planning and attention to detail ensured uninterrupted, outstanding weather support to the 155th commander and his staff under field conditions," Weaver said.

Maj. Gen. Paul Sullivan, assistant adjutant general for Air, was busy April 7 presenting 2000 Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards, first to the 200th RED HORSE Squadron during the state staff assist visit to Port Clinton. In the afternoon, he traveled to Toledo, presenting both the 180th Fighter Wing and the 555th Air Force Band their awards. MSGT EALNOR GREY, HQ OHANG

## Ohio ANG, Air Force ROTC continue working relationship

The Ohio Air National Guard has several units currently participating in or supporting the Air Force ROTC and Junior ROTC programs throughout Ohio.

The 123rd Air Control Squadron, Blue Ash, has two members, Master Sgt. Wes Smith and Staff Sgt. Amy Hitzeman, who work with the Miami University ROTC program. Other units support the programs with bus transportation, base tours, flyovers and speakers for functions.

Earlier this year, ROTC leadership pre-

sented the Air Force ROTC Outstanding Service Award to the Ohio Air National Guard for its collective efforts in support of ROTC throughout the state. MSGT EALNOR GREY, HQ OHANG.

## RAOC, RTOC reunion in works

Past members of the 54th Rear Area Operations Center/Rear Tactical Operations Center are planning a reunion for Sept. 29. Information flyers will be sent out to past members as soon as possible.

If anyone has a copy of any of the old alert rosters or would like to help organize the reunion, please call Sgt. 1st Class Kelly Finney at (614) 336-7458 or Sgt. Maj. Bill Alspach (614) 336-7122. For more information, send an e-mail to [kelly.finney@oh.ngb.army.mil](mailto:kelly.finney@oh.ngb.army.mil). SFC KELLY FINNEY, HQ STARC (-)

## Armor unit's open house demonstrations open eyes

Recently, the 1-107th Armor Battalion drew about 200 visitors to an open house at the Ravenna Training and Logistics Site. The event included a tour of the arsenal, and a glimpse of some of the training that the soldiers conduct each month and the weapons systems they use.

An old car from a local demolition derby was donated and run over by an M1 Abrams tank to demonstrate the power and capabilities of the unit's main equipment. "The tank was the big draw of the event," said 1st Lt. Craig Herald, battalion training officer. "The public was really excited to see it run over the car." SPC JASON WELLS, 1-107TH ARMOR BATTALION

## RTI conducting variety of activities, training this spring

The Ohio Army National Guard's 145th Regiment, Regional Training Institute (RTI), located at Rickenbacker Army Enclave in Columbus, has trained and improved the military education of several soldiers in the past few months.

The 1-145th Armor Battalion (armor school) held a ceremony April 22 for its most recent military occupational specialty



Photo by 121st Air Refueling Wing Visual Information

On behalf of the Ohio Air National Guard, Maj Gen Paul J. Sullivan (right), assistant adjutant general for Air, receives the Air Force ROTC Outstanding Service Award earlier this year from Col George D. Schafer, ROTC Northeast Ohio Region commander.

(MOS) course graduates—six cavalry scouts and nine armor crewmen.

Several soldiers are currently enrolled in or have recently completed courses offered by the 2-145th General Studies Battalion.

OCS Class 48 was promoted to senior status in February, accomplishing that feat more quickly than any other previous class. Following annual training at Fort Benning, Ga., in August, candidates meeting all requirements will be commissioned on Sept. 8.

On March 18, the RTI held graduations simultaneously at Rickenbacker and Camp Perry for BNCOB Class 00-001/002 Phase I. There were 85 graduates that will continue on to MOS-specific Phase II courses within the next two years. Ohio Guardmembers who exceeded course standards were Sgt. Michael Gresko, Company A, 612th Engineer Battalion, St. Mary's; Sgt. Daniel Makruski, Company B, 1-148th Infantry Battalion, Bowling Green; and Sgt. Michael McBennett, B Battery, 1-134th Field Artillery Battalion, Alliance.

On April 22, graduations were held again at Rickenbacker and Camp Perry for ANCOB Class 01-001/002 Phase I, with 66 graduates. The soldier who exceeded course standards for Class 002 at Camp Perry was Staff Sgt. David Mowen, Company A, 1-107th Armor Battalion, Newton Falls. SGT ANGELA BELTZ, HQ, 145TH REGIMENT (RTI)



Photo by Steve Toth, Adj. Gen. Dept. Public Affairs Office

**BG Ronald G. Young (left), assistant adjutant general for Army, administers the commissioning oath to new 2LT William Gilbert, the first officer in Ohio Army Guard history to be commissioned under the Army's Dental Student Early Commissioning Program.**

## Guardmember has reason to smile after direct commission

In quicker time than it takes for a routine teeth cleaning, Staff Sgt. William Gilbert became a second lieutenant April 6 under the Army Medical Department's Dental Student Early Commissioning Program.

It was the first such dental officer early commissioning in the history of the Ohio Army National Guard, according to Staff Sgt. Marianne Pokrandt of the Ohio Guard's AMEDD recruiting office.

Gilbert, formerly a medical specialist with Detachment 6 (Medical), Headquarters, State Area Command, will remain in the unit as he completes dental school at Case Western Reserve University. He will serve under the supervision of a senior Guard dentist conducting dental examinations during periodic physicals.

"I'm proud that I was able to be in this position at the right time," Gilbert said. "I'm very proud to be in the Guard and hopefully other people can see what I'm doing and maybe they will be encouraged to do it also."

"Many (Guard) dentists are close to retirement. There's a need to bring some more young dentists into the Guard."

Pokrandt said an early commissioning program also exists for medical school students, and both programs are open to non-prior service recruits as well as current guardmembers. Candidates must already be enrolled in an accredited medical or dental school or have been accepted for admission.

For more information on the program, call (614) 336-7187. **STEVE TOTH, ADJ. GEN. DEPT. PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE**

## Idea helps with school benefits

Having educational benefits available as a member of the National Guard is important.

Understanding how to obtain the benefits can sometimes be difficult if you don't know how the system works, whom to contact or when to get things started.

Staff Sgt. Kevin Wuebker, a services specialist with the 180th Fighter Wing, Toledo, had taken advantage of

the Montgomery G.I. Bill, Ohio National Guard Scholarship Program and the Student Loan Repayment Program without a problem, but wasn't hearing that from other unit members he worked with or knew at the 180th.

So Wuebker designed a checklist on the things he did to receive his educational benefits to help other Air Guardmembers.

"My motivation was hearing the frustration from other people," Wuebker said. "I wanted to develop this checklist so it could be used by everyone." Wuebker's

checklist, which took about six weeks to complete, was approved for use at the 180th and later approved for use by all Ohio Air Guard units. Recently, Wuebker received a special recognition award during the annual ANG state awards banquet. **MAJ TOM GEE, 180TH FIGHTER WING**

## ANG chaplain knows who ranks highest

Some weekends, Chaplain Col. Vergel L. Lattimore is found in an office at Ohio Air National Guard Headquarters in Columbus.

But on one weekend this spring, he and chaplains from across the country were called to Langley Air Force Base in Virginia in response to the March 3 plane crash in Georgia in which 21 National Guard members were killed (see page 22).

Most of the chaplains counseled the grieving families at a weekend memorial service, but Lattimore, 48, was there to pro-

vide counseling and support for the other chaplains.

Chaplain Col. John B. Ellington Jr., chief of the Air National Guard chaplain service, saw Lattimore in action. For the past 20 years, Ellington has watched Lattimore grow into increasingly more responsible positions.

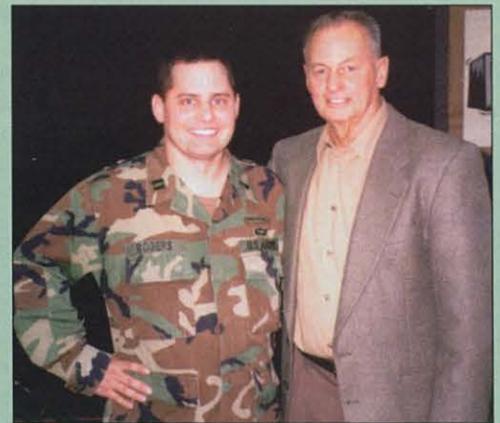
"I'm responsible for the 106,000 men and women in the Air National Guard, and he helps make decisions for their spiritual, ethical and moral direction," Ellington said. Lattimore's leadership by example impresses Ellington. "Many people preach, but the thing about Chaplain Lattimore is his action and behavior."

As impressive as Lattimore's integrity is his organization, Ellington said. "He's always prepared and on top of things."

That is evidenced by the frequently updated e-mails to the chaplains and their assistants in each of the 45 flight units for which Lattimore is responsible. Each flight has three chaplains and three enlisted assistants.

Lattimore also serves as an assistant pastor at First AME Zion Church in Columbus while working full-time as professor of pastoral care and director of the master's in counseling ministries program at the Methodist Theological School in Ohio, in Delaware.

## The tribe has spoken



Courtesy photo

**CPT Randel Rogers (left) of the 737th Maintenance Battalion had the opportunity to work with "Survivor" television show contestant and retired Navy SEAL Rudy Boesch at the Columbus Boat and Travel Show earlier this year. Boesch hosted a "Survivor" contest to benefit charity, and Rogers guided contestants in eating survival food, including MREs (Meals-Ready-to-Eat) and live crickets.**

He said that he's always been structured, even before his high-school days in Junior ROTC in his native Charlotte, N.C.

Lattimore's professional military career began a year after he received his master's in theology from Duke University Divinity School. His habit of reading billboards put his eyes in contact with this message: "Would you like to be an Air Force chaplain?"

His graduate degree and seven years of ministerial experience enabled him to enter the Air Force as a captain in 1979.

With each promotion, he accepted new responsibilities, which include a role on the executive team that deals with diversity issues and other policy matters.

Although military and religious objectives often are at cross-purposes, there's no question about whether rank or role is more important for Lattimore. He points to his business card and tells why chaplain comes first and colonel second.

"I see myself as an advocate for protection of freedom of religion," Lattimore said. Those in the military "are not just machines to do things that are against their beliefs; they still have some rights as people of God."

He said he enjoys meeting people from different backgrounds and wants them to know he's available for them.

And in the face of tragedy, he is ready to accept the role of counselor.

"I'm someone to walk with through the valley of the shadow of death." **FELIX HOOVER, THE COLUMBUS DISPATCH**

## Chancellor Chu chooses to fly with Ohio Air National Guard

One of the people responsible for helping oversee and manage the funds for the 100-percent tuition-paid Ohio National Guard Scholarship Program got a first-hand look at the Guard in action when he took an F-16 orientation flight April 12.

Roderick G.W. Chu, chancellor of the Ohio Board of Regents, took a flight aboard one of the F-16 "Fighting Falcon" jets of the 178th Fighter Wing, Springfield.

In addition to managing state-funded financial aid programs, the Ohio Board of Regents develops and advocates policies to maximize higher education's contribu-

tions to the state and its citizens, according to the board's website.

"The mission was a single-ship flight to our main training area, Buckeye MOA (Military Operating Area). We did a maximum performance takeoff into a vertical climb to 10,000 feet," said Col. Thomas Pape, 178th Fighter Wing vice commander and the pilot during Chu's F-16 flight. "We accomplished several acrobatic maneuvers—loops, chandelles, aileron rolls."

Orientation flights are given to various government and civic leaders in an effort to educate them about some of the Ohio Guard's many missions. **STEVE TOTH, ADJ. GEN. DEPT. PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE**

## Joint efforts bag award for Springfield fighter pilot

The 178th Fighter Wing's Lt. Col. Craig Wallace garnered a top award for working with the Federal Aviation Administration on Buckeye Military Operating Area use issues.

Wallace, 162nd Fighter Squadron commander, received the "Air Traffic Control Association Chairman's Citation of Merit Award," which was achieved through a joint FAA-Defense Department effort related to the recent Buckeye Military Operations Area (MOA) agreement dealing with military and civil access.

The Buckeye MOA was identified as one of the top five major choke points in the National Airspace System. Wallace was given the Defense Department team lead position and, working with the FAA, agreed to more efficiently manage the airspace. The result was the MOA divided into two major areas (east and west). It now provides a north "tunnel" for departing aircraft, as well as a south "shelf." **MAJ ANN COGHLIN, 178TH FIGHTER WING**

## Artilleryman's charitable mission benefits sick girl

Last December, Staff Sgt. Andrew Loeffler of Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1-134th Field Artillery Battalion, Columbus, took charge of the unit's efforts to raise money for a 5-year-old Columbus girl with a terminal genetic skin



Photo by SMSgt Joe Stahl, 178th Fighter Wing

**Ohio Board of Regents Chancellor Roderick G. W. Chu (left) recently flew in an F-16 jet with Col Thomas Pape, 178th Fighter Wing vice commander.**

disease called reserve dystrophic epidermolysis bullosa.

HHB, 1-134th collected \$357 of the \$5,200 raised by AMVETS Post 1928 on Sullivant Avenue in Columbus. Loeffler's efforts helped send the girl to North Carolina to have a \$30,000 operation, which was just part of the treatments that had to be done.

Loeffler is a team chief for a field artillery forward observer section, and has served in the Army and Ohio Army National Guard for a combined 13 years. **SPC JEREMY HOWLAND, 1-134 FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION**

## Tanker earns prestigious MacArthur Award

First Lt. John Merriam of Headquarters Company, 1-107th Armor Battalion, Stow, has been selected as the Ohio National Guard's recipient of the Gen. Douglas MacArthur Leadership Award.

Merriam is currently assigned as the unit's scout platoon leader. He was nominated for the award based on his outstanding sustained performance as a junior officer while in the Ohio Army National Guard.

Headquarters, Department of the Army, in cooperation with the MacArthur Foundation, presents the award to recognize outstanding company grade officers in the active Army, Army National Guard and Army Reserve who demonstrate the ideals for which MacArthur stood—duty, honor, country. **SPC ERIC OHMAN, HHC, 1-107TH ARMOR BATTALION**



Lattimore

## July 1 pay raise targets midlevel NCOs

Some midlevel noncommissioned officers will see an increase in their pay July 1 due to the fiscal 2001 National Defense Authorization Act.

Unlike last year's July 1 pay reform where 75 percent of servicemembers saw a raise, this year's reform targets E-5s to E-7s with six to 26 years of service.

The raise rewards promotion over longevity and addresses some retention concerns, Defense Department officials said.

The Jan. 1, 2002, scheduled pay raise will be a minimum of 4.6 percent. **AIR FORCE PRINT NEWS**

## Application period open for AUSA Cribbins Scholarship

Association of the United States Army officials recently announced that candidates may apply now for the school year 2001-2002 Cribbins college scholarship.

The \$2,000 scholarship is for current or former soldiers pursuing a four-year degree in engineering or a related field.

The scholarship will be awarded on the basis of academic merit and personal achievement to a soldier serving in the active Army or reserve components, or who has been honorably discharged.

Applicants must already have been accepted as freshmen to an accredited four-year college or university.

To apply, write to: Association of the United States Army, Corporate Secretary, Attention: Cribbins Scholarship, 2425 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, Va., 22201. Deadline is Aug. 15. **AUSA NEWS**

## DoD implements Tricare Senior Pharmacy Program

The new Tricare Senior Pharmacy Program officially began operation April 1 for an estimated 1.4 million potentially eligible uniformed services beneficiaries age 65 years and older.

By law, to use the Tricare retail and mail order benefit, beneficiaries age 65 and over must be eligible for Medicare Part A and enrolled in Part B (Exception: Those who turned 65 before April 1, 2001, are eligible for the benefit, even if they are not enrolled in Part B).

The new Tricare pharmacy benefit offers four dispensing options listed in order of cost/value to the beneficiary:

*Military Treatment Facility Pharmacy.* Military treatment facility (MTF) phar-

## Reserve Pay for 4 Drill Periods

Unofficial Copy (Effective July 1, 2001)

YEARS OF SERVICE

	<2	2	3	4	6	8	10	12	14	16	18	20	22	24	26
Grade															
O-10	1135.84	1175.80	1175.80	1175.80	1175.80	1220.92	1220.92	1288.56	1288.56	1380.80	1380.80	1473.24	1480.52	1511.28	1564.96
O-9	1006.68	1033.04	1055.04	1055.04	1055.04	1081.88	1081.88	1126.88	1126.88	1220.92	1220.92	1288.56	1307.12	1333.96	1380.80
O-8	911.76	941.64	961.40	966.96	991.64	1033.04	1042.64	1081.88	1093.16	1126.88	1175.80	1220.92	1251.04	1251.04	1251.04
O-7	757.64	809.12	809.12	815.00	845.44	868.60	895.40	922.12	948.92	1033.04	1104.12	1104.12	1104.12	1104.12	1109.68
O-6	561.52	616.88	657.36	657.36	659.88	688.12	691.88	691.88	714.76	800.72	841.52	882.32	905.52	929.04	974.64
O-5	449.16	527.32	563.84	570.72	593.40	593.40	611.24	644.24	687.44	730.88	751.60	772.04	795.28	795.28	795.28
O-4	378.56	460.96	491.72	498.60	527.12	550.36	587.96	617.24	637.56	658.00	664.88	664.88	664.88	664.88	664.88
O-3	351.76	398.80	430.40	465.24	487.52	511.96	532.36	558.64	572.28	572.28	572.28	572.28	572.28	572.28	572.28
O-2	306.80	349.44	402.48	416.04	424.64	424.64	424.64	424.64	424.64	424.64	424.64	424.64	424.64	424.64	424.64
O-1	266.36	277.20	335.04	335.04	335.04	335.04	335.04	335.04	335.04	335.04	335.04	335.04	335.04	335.04	335.04
O-3E	0.00	0.00	0.00	465.24	487.52	511.96	532.36	558.64	580.76	593.40	610.72	610.72	610.72	610.72	610.72
O-2E	0.00	0.00	0.00	416.04	424.64	438.12	460.96	478.60	491.72	491.72	491.72	491.72	491.72	491.72	491.72
O-1E	0.00	0.00	0.00	335.04	335.04	335.04	335.04	335.04	335.04	335.04	335.04	335.04	335.04	335.04	335.04
W-5	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	618.76	640.00	661.32	682.68
W-4	358.40	385.56	396.64	407.56	426.32	444.84	463.60	481.88	500.84	519.00	537.60	555.76	574.60	593.12	612.12
W-3	325.76	353.32	353.32	357.88	372.52	389.20	411.24	424.64	439.28	456.04	472.68	489.32	505.96	522.64	539.36
W-2	285.28	308.68	308.68	318.80	335.04	353.32	366.76	380.20	393.28	407.76	422.60	437.44	452.24	467.12	482.00
W-1	237.68	272.52	272.52	295.28	308.68	322.56	336.44	350.24	364.20	378.12	392.00	402.48	402.48	402.48	402.48
E-9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	416.92	426.32	438.28	452.32	466.40	480.24	499.04	517.68	541.44
E-8	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	349.60	359.72	369.12	380.44	392.68	405.48	418.04	437.08	455.64	481.68
E-7	244.16	266.56	276.68	286.64	297.08	314.96	325.04	335.04	345.08	355.48	365.60	375.72	393.28	404.64	433.40
E-6	210.00	232.04	242.32	252.24	262.64	279.64	289.88	299.84	310.00	317.28	322.84	322.84	322.84	322.84	322.84
E-5	184.24	206.56	216.52	226.80	237.24	251.80	261.72	272.04	272.04	272.04	272.04	272.04	272.04	272.04	272.04
E-4	171.84	189.84	200.08	210.16	220.40	220.40	220.40	220.40	220.40	220.40	220.40	220.40	220.40	220.40	220.40
E-3	161.96	174.28	184.48	184.72	184.72	184.72	184.72	184.72	184.72	184.72	184.72	184.72	184.72	184.72	184.72
E-2	155.88	155.88	155.88	155.88	155.88	155.88	155.88	155.88	155.88	155.88	155.88	155.88	155.88	155.88	155.88
E-1>4	139.04	139.04	139.04	139.04	139.04	139.04	139.04	139.04	139.04	139.04	139.04	139.04	139.04	139.04	139.04
E-1<4	128.64	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

macies will continue to fill prescriptions written by military or civilian prescribers for medications listed on the MTF's formulary. There is no co-payment or other expenses.

*National Mail Order Pharmacy (NMOP).* Prescriptions filled through the NMOP will be \$3 for up to a 90-day supply of most generic medications, or \$9 for up to a 90-day supply of most non-generic medications.

*Retail Network Pharmacy.* Prescriptions filled at a retail network pharmacy will be \$3 for a 30-day supply of most generic medications or \$9 for a 30-day supply of most non-generic medications.

*Retail Non-network Pharmacy.* At non-network pharmacies, beneficiaries will pay either \$9 or 20 percent of the total cost (whichever is greater), for a 30-day supply after meeting an annual deductible.

For more information, see the Military Health System/Tricare website at <http://www.Tricare.osd.mil/pharmacy>. **DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

## Name SGLI insurance beneficiaries with care

When it comes to Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance, completing the election form correctly is essential to ensuring the beneficiaries you intend receive their payment.

Since the maximum SGLI coverage increased to \$250,000 April 1, there is concern among Defense Department officials about

people who either indicate no beneficiary or select the "by law" option without fully understanding potential consequences.

According to the "by law" statute, proceeds first go to the spouse. If there is no spouse, surviving children share the proceeds equally; next in line are surviving parents. If there are no parents, proceeds go to the executor of the deceased's estate. In the absence of an executor, the proceeds go to next of kin according to state law.

Officials said some servicemembers may believe that their will directs where the insurance proceeds go. Insurance contracts are normally separate and apart from a will. **AIR FORCE PRINT NEWS**

## ONGSP APPLICATION DEADLINES

- Fall term, July 1
- Spring semester/Winter quarter, Nov. 1
- Spring quarter, Feb. 1
- Summer term, April 1

It is the sole responsibility of a student/guardmember to turn in a completed application to the **Ohio National Guard Scholarship Program** office, located at the Adjutant General's Department, 2825 West Dublin Granville Road, Columbus, Ohio 43235-2789, by the deadlines listed above.

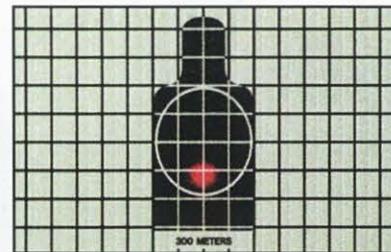
This must be done prior to each term a student attends school.

For more information, call (614) 336-7032 or toll-free (888) 400-6484.



# Beam Hit

Technology advances help improve soldier marksmanship skills



Story and photos by Spc. Haraz N. Ghanbari, HQ STARC (-)

Looking back to week four of basic combat training, drill sergeants were consistently stressing the importance of the fundamentals of basic rifle marksmanship—steady position, aiming, breath control and trigger squeeze.

Today the fundamentals remain unchanged. However several advances in technology now allow soldiers the opportunity to hone their marksmanship skills in a dry-fire environment before range qualification.

The Laser Marksmanship Training System (LMTS) is the newest weapons training system that teaches and reinforces the fundamentals of basic rifle marksmanship (BRM) while increasing confidence in a soldier's ability to use his or her assigned service weapon.

Unlike its predecessor—the Multipurpose Arcade Combat Simulator (MACS), which used a plastic replica of an M-16 rifle and a video monitor to represent targets—the LMTS allows soldiers to use the weapon that is issued to them by their unit. This provides for more familiarization and hands-on use. A battery-powered LMTS laser transmitter is inserted into the end of the rifle barrel, and when the weapon is fired, the laser emits a pulse of light. The light is detected and registered by one of several electronic targets down range.

“(The LMTS) is more realistic than the older generations (of simulators),” said Maj. Gregory W. Rogers, currently commander of Headquarters, State Area Command, Columbus,

and a former member of the 1-148th Infantry Battalion. “This system can check your breathing as well as where you are hitting during the breathing cycle.”

The M-16 LMTS equipment consists of a laser transmitter and rod, reflective zero target, military mask set, and other alternate targets. It is safe to use indoors.

A course of instruction with four different exercises accompanies the LMTS package.

Exercise one, a reflective target exercise, allows the soldier to demonstrate his or her understanding of the four fundamentals of marksmanship while assuming a proper prone supported position.

The interactive dry-fire exercise is part two of the sequence. Using a TR-700 target, the standard is to achieve eight out of 10 shots from the prone firing positions—unsupported and supported.

The TR-700 target detects the laser “shot” on target, counts the number of successful hits, and sends back a visual and audible signal to the firer.

“The biggest problem people have (during qualification) is taking their face up to see what they hit,” said Master Sgt. Todd L. Friend, NCOIC of the Ohio Army National Guard's Small Arms Readiness Training (SART) team. “You waste about a second-and-a-half.

“Simulators such as the LMTS are designed to allow the soldier practice time to correct

those mistakes before they go the qualification range.”

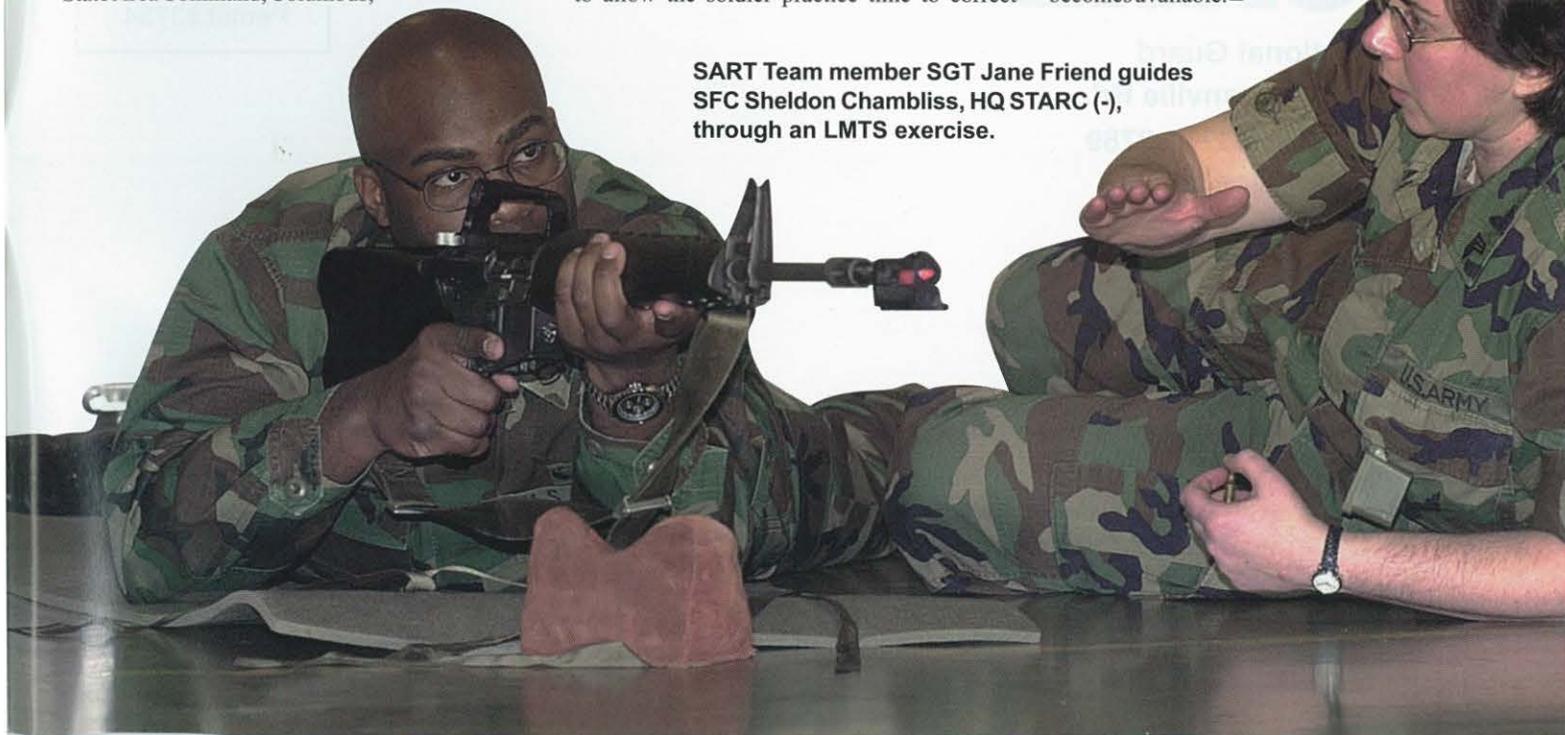
Grouping and zeroing is the third exercise. Using a TR-900 target, the standard for grouping is to fire up to 27 rounds in three-round shot groups and achieve two consecutive three-round shot groups within a 4-centimeter circle. The standard for zeroing is to adjust the sights so five of six rounds in two consecutive shot groups strike within the 4-cm circle on the 25-meter zero target.

The TR-900 target can be connected to a computer using BEAMHIT-brand software to detect the laser “shot” on target, while determining the precise point of impact, center of mass of a shot group and maximum dispersion.

The fourth exercise, called the electronic alternate “C” course of fire, provides the soldier the opportunity to display, without assistance, his or her ability to engage three targets and achieve a minimum of 26 hits out of 40 shots. The masks are used to simulate the “E-Type” silhouettes at different ranges to the target.

The LMTS is still relatively new to the National Guard, according to Sgt. Jane Friend, also of the SART team. She said more LMTS simulators will be fielded and available for Ohio Guard units to train within the next couple years as funding becomes available. ■

SART Team member SGT Jane Friend guides SFC Sheldon Chambliss, HQ STARC (-), through an LMTS exercise.





# Opening eyes at open house

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Photo by SPC Jason Wells, 1-107th Armor Battalion

# BUCKEYE GUARD

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