

# Oregon Sentinel



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## Oregon's 1-162 IN BN, 82 ROC return home

### *The ORARNG units spent almost one year in Iraq*

By Sgt. Cherie Cavallaro,  
State Public Affairs Office



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy, State Public Affairs Office

Gilbert Liming, (center), overcome with emotion, welcomes home his grandson, Staff Sgt. Roger Shafer of the 82nd ROC while his great-grandson AJ (r.) looks on. The unit arrived at the Lake Oswego Armory on April 9th after spending a little over a year in Iraq. The unit, along with the 1st BN of the 162nd IN returned to Oregon the first week of April.

SALEM, Ore. – You couldn't have ordered up a more beautiful day as the plane carrying the remaining soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 162nd Infantry touched down at McChord Air Force Base, Wash., on April 3rd. Alpha Co. had arrived the night before and were there waiting for their comrades. The arriving soldiers were greeted by warm, sunny skies as they stepped out onto familiar ground – many of them happy to see the green grass and trees of the Pacific Northwest once again.

Some family members, anxious to see their loved ones, stood by as the soldiers crossed the tarmac and headed inside the building to await further instructions.

Although Spec. Anthony Dix said he wasn't going to miss the smells and noises he experienced almost every day while in Iraq, he said his time there taught him a lot.

"It was a good experience, providing great training," Dix said. He was most looking forward to being with his family and having the freedom to do what he wants, when he wants.

With the entire unit back in the United States, they boarded three yellow buses that took them to the north part of Ft.

Lewis, were they would be lodged for the next couple of days as they completed their demobilization processing. Other family members awaited their arrival bearing banners, balloons and hand painted signs. Sgt. Jason Gade's 9-year old son Derek could hardly contain himself as he eagerly watched for the busses to arrive, along with his younger sister Elizabeth and their mother. Derek's brother Kevin was away on a Boy Scout trip, but they planned to tell Kevin all about their father's arrival.

"It feels good to have my dad back in the states," he said. He said the first thing he wanted to do with his father when he gets him home is play video games with him.

Just after noon, the busses arrived at the north end of the installation. Soldiers filed out and gathered at the chapel. Maj. Gen. Robert Wilson, the Seventh Infantry Division Commander from Ft. Carson, Colo., spoke to the soldiers, welcoming them back to the Pacific Northwest, noting that their 14-month deployment was not an easy task.

"You were not sure what the mission was going to be, but with multiple missions discovered, you were successful at every one of them," Wilson said.

Awards were then distributed, including 379 Combat Infantry Badges (CIB), 18 See **ORARNG unit** page 5

## NORTHCOM Chief visits Oregon National Guard

By Maj. Mike Allegre  
and Capt. Stephanie Banen,  
142nd FW Public Affairs Office

REDMOND, Ore. – "The National Guard's mission should not be focused only on Homeland Security, but also provide one-stop shopping for federal support. The American military must continue to evolve and stay ahead of terrorists."

This was the main message from Gen. Ralph E. Eberhart, the commander of North American Command, to nearly 400 Oregon National Guard officers April 24, in Redmond, Ore. Accompanying Eberhart was NORTHCOM Chief of Staff, Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees, Oregon's former adjutant general.

Eberhart is Commander of North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD) and United States Northern Command (NORTHCOM) at Peterson AFB, Colo.

As the nation witnessed on Sept. 11, 2001, America's enemies have the resolve and means to commit acts of terrorism against innocent civilians and commercial interests within our country. As a result, NORTHCOM was formed in Oct. 2002 to provide a



Photo by Maj. Arnold V. Strong, State Public Affairs Officer

Gen. Ralph E. Eberhart speaking at the ORNG Officer's Association Conference April 24.

single command for Department of Defense homeland defense missions. Emerging threats for the new command include chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and See **Eberhart visits** page 6

## Despite challenges, 2-162 fights on through Baghdad

Story by Rebecca May-Brunns, 39th Brigade Combat Team,  
Arkansas Army National Guard Reprinted from the Washington Post

BAGHDAD, Iraq – "Let them know he wanted to keep on fighting," said the intense 22-year-old Private Andrew Molero of Roseburg, Ore., as he sat restlessly smoking a Lucky cigarette.

It was the same situation Molero and Sgt. Lucas Wilson, of Eastern Oregon, had trained for in Ft. Polk, La., at the Joint Readiness Training Center a month earlier. During the mock battle, Wilson had lost a leg and Molero was the combat lifesaver.

This time it was real.

The two soldiers and their platoon from Company A of the 2nd Battalion, 162nd Infantry found themselves ambushed on an overpass in downtown Baghdad while providing convoy security for Arkansas' 39th Brigade Headquarters Company.

The convoy came to an alarming halt as two Bradley Fighting Vehicles which were leading the convoy took hits; the first with an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) and the second with a rocket propelled grenade (RPG).

"There was some machine gun and small arms fire that initiated it," said 1st Lt. Dewayne Jones, of Medford, Ore.

Jones, a platoon leader and vehicle commander, was part of a security team that included Molero and Wilson, who carried M4 rifles, and Spec. Steven Baldwin, a 240B machine gunner. As a fire-fight ensued, their vehicle became trapped in the halted convoy.

"I saw a flash to my rear and thought it was an IED," said Jones. "I radioed it in and then heard screaming from the back."

An RPG had hit their vehicle above the back wheel and smashed through a wooden bench, Wilson's leg, two rucksacks and Meals-Ready-to-Eat (MRE) boxes, launching

See **ORARNG unit**, page 6

# Letters From The Front



Photo courtesy of Mrs. Matt Robinson

Okay, so there's not a whole lot to say this time. Things are pretty much the same. The boys are still at Camp Provider in Baghdad. Things are peaceful for the most part and time is going by very slowly! Here is a picture of Matt with some Iraqi kids at an orphanage in downtown Baghdad. Thanks to their employer, The Rose Garden and The Portland Trailblazers, they were able to brighten these little guys' day with stuffed animals and other fun stuff.

Nicole Robinson

Pictured above: Sgt. Matt Robinson (r.), originally from E-Company, 82<sup>nd</sup> Cavalry, who is assigned to Delta-Company, 2<sup>nd</sup> BN, 162<sup>nd</sup> IN, with some new friends.

## Media not telling the whole story in Iraq

Hello All,

Still, I have no dedicated e-mail so I am writing this via bulk mail. I am also returning letters back when I receive mail or packages from home. I have never written so much in my life, so keep those cards and letters coming!

I just wanted to tell you all how things are going over here. Don't let the media fool you, we are doing great things here. Even with the prison scandal being all over the news, don't forget that the soldiers implicated in the reports make up a very small percentage of the soldiers over here and do not even come close to representing what the vast majority of the soldiers are doing in Iraq. While the prison situation is a terrible thing, it also sells newspapers and ad space on the six o'clock news. Conversely, what the average soldier is doing does not.

They are out there every day watching their buddies' backs. They are bringing clothes and toys to local orphanages and soccer balls to local schools. They are interacting with neighborhood and district councilors and teaching them about democracy and freedom, and are training the Iraqi police and civil defense corps. They are protecting local government buildings so that on June 30<sup>th</sup>, they can be turned back over to the people intact, and in usable condition.

However, the national media has deemed that these great acts of humanity and caring are not newsworthy. They feel that none of these wonderful things being done by our troops will sell newspapers. The Iraqis are not yet ready to defend themselves against outside terrorist groups. If we do this right, Iraq can become a great country.

Don't let the media undermine what we are trying to accomplish in Iraq. Their reports only serve to undermine the public's support. We need that support so we can finish the job we started, and our children won't have to come back here in 20 years.

Command Sgt. Maj. Brunk Conley,  
2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 162<sup>nd</sup> Infantry, Oregon Army National Guard

## FROM THE EDITOR

Exceptional times call for exceptional people on the team, and in the public affairs office here in Salem, we are blessed with a team that has one goal as its mission statement: to tell your story. It has been a year since we first released *The Oregon Sentinel* as the official publication of the Oregon National Guard. Since then, we have witnessed the return from Iraq of three major Army units (cover story), the redeployment of elements of the Air Guard from almost two years of active duty, the return of units from duty across the United States performing Homeland Security roles, the deployment of another infantry battalion into Iraq (see page one) and the preparation of another two units for duty as part of the Global War on Terror (see cover photo).

We have also witnessed an expanded role for the Public Affairs Office and its ability to support units in the field. I am delighted to introduce Capt. Mike Braibish (Air) to the team as the Deputy Public Affairs Officer and to recognize the year-long contributions of Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy, brand manager and managing editor of this publication. Mike joins us from the active Air Force, where he has served as a public affairs officer for the past decade. He comes with a breadth of experience that is as diverse as it is deep in operational relevance. His previous assignments include joint and overseas tours and he has already proven his skill in balancing out the team. Nick came onboard a year ago this month with a more corporate background that he readily adapted to the Oregon Military Department. His experience in managing brand strategy for major Oregon corporations such as Nike and InFocus has strengthened the work that we do as an organization and the finesse of this publication is due in large part to the commitment to excellence that he brings to everything he does. Furthermore, Mrs. Kay Fristad was recently recognized for fifteen years of service to the Oregon National Guard, almost all of which have been here in the Public Affairs Office. We are a strong team, focused on telling your story here and abroad.

We are working to get more coverage of what our soldiers and airmen are doing outside and inside the United States and hope that you will "heed the call" and send us your story ideas and submissions. The men and women on your team deserve to read about the work their peers are doing on a daily basis. Thanks for all the contributions to date and keep those stories and photos coming our way.

**Maj. Arnold V. Strong,**  
**Editor in Chief,**  
**The Oregon Sentinel**

## Tell us what you think!

Address your comments, feedback and ideas to:

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## The Oregon Sentinel

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**Stories and photos from the field are gratefully accepted. We need your input to insure better coverage.**

Guard members and their families are encouraged to submit any articles meant to inform, educate or entertain readers of the *Oregon Sentinel*, including stories about interesting Guard personalities and unique unit training. Letters to the editor are also welcome. All letters must include the author's name, address and daytime phone number. Names may be withheld in print upon request, but all letters must be signed, and are subject to editing prior to publication. For publication schedules, or for any other questions, please see your unit Public Affairs Representative, or contact the State Public Affairs Office or any of the *Oregon Sentinel* staff members listed below.

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## JFHQ swears in new Inspector General, Col. Bernard "Kimo" Gabriel



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy, State Public Affairs Office

Joint Forces Headquarters welcomed the new Inspector General, Col. Bernard "Kimo" Gabriel on May 27, 2004.

Gabriel's last assignment was in the Office of the Chief of Staff and Secretary of the Army at the Pentagon. He served as the Director of the Executive Communications and Control. He previously served in both staff and troops in CONUS and overseas, commanding the 9<sup>th</sup> Adjutant General Company, 9<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division at Ft. Lewis, Wash., and as the Executive Officer of the 18<sup>th</sup> Personnel Service Battalion, and later the Group S3, 18<sup>th</sup> Personnel Support Group (Airborne), XVIII Airborne Corps at Ft. Bragg, N.C. Gabriel has also served as a Foreign Area Officer Trainee, assisting the Army Attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Bangkok, Thailand.

Gabriel and his wife Debbie, originally of Taft, Calif., have three sons; Christopher, Eric, and Matthew.

# Command Message

## Brig. Gen. Raymond C. Byrne, Acting Adjutant General, State of Oregon

Over the past several months I have been working closely with rear detachment commanders and family program coordinators both informally and at the state level coordination meetings. Most frequently the issues and the discussion is centered on soldiers and families having inadequately being financially prepared for the deployment. While not everyone in our organization is going to deploy in the near future I would like all of you to consider the following items and develop a working financial plan for yourselves and if you have one, your families.

1. Develop an estate plan. As we go through periodic Soldier Readiness Processing (SRP) you can talk to the JAG represen-

tative who can assist you in preparing the necessary supporting documents at no cost to you. Examples of documents they can prepare are wills and powers of attorney.

2. Develop a backup plan for emergencies that may occur while you are away. What if you lose your credit card? Who has emergency access to your savings and checking accounts? Who can take care of an overlooked bill?

3. Develop a filing system. This is especially helpful for you when tax season arrives.

4. Insurance. Again, as you go through the SRP check to see if you have adequate insurance, (SGLI), to cover obligations you may have as well as provide coverage

for your family. You may need additional coverage.

5. Protect your property. Consider your automobile or house, whether it is rented or owned, and other personal property.

6. Fund the future. People in the United States do a very poor job in saving money for the future. It takes discipline to set up a savings account but is well worth the effort.

A good time to "practice" or test your financial plan is during a training deployment or annual training. Please take time to develop a plan. If you don't have a plan you are placing a burden on others as well as trusting them to read your mind or follow your intent in a time of crisis.



## Chief Master Sgt. Rodney R. Smith, incoming State Command Chief Master Sergeant

Chief Master Sgt. Rodney R. Smith is a full time technician serving as the 142nd Fighter Wing/AMXS Superintendent at the Portland Air National Guard Base. He supervised a unit of 144 members responsible for the Air Superiority for the Northwest Sector of the United States.

Smith was drafted into the US Army in 1971 and did an extended tour in Vietnam as a Structural Repair Technician and part-time door gunner on CH-47 "Chinook" helicopters. He was released from active duty in 1972 and joined the Oregon Air National Guard's 142nd Consolidated Air Maintenance (CAM) Squadron in Portland, Ore. in 1975. Smith was hired on as a full time technician in 1980 during the conversion from F-101s to F-4C aircraft, and in 1998 he was selected as the Weapons Element Supervisor.

Smith was promoted to Chief in July 2000 while he was serving as the Wing Weapons Manager for the 142nd Fighter Wing. In 2002, he was selected as the 142nd Fighter Wing/AMXS Superintendent. In March 2004, Smith was appointed as the Command Chief for the State of Oregon, succeeding Chief Master Sgt. Wayne Stuart. His deployment experiences with the National Guard include Incerlik, Turkey; Prince Sultan Air Base, Saudi Arabia; Aalborg, Denmark and numerous CONUS stops.

Major awards and decorations include the Air Force Commendation Medal, the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, the Air Re-



serve Forces Meritorious Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Air Force Longevity Service Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal w/30 Year Award, ORANG Meritorious Service Medal, ORANG Commendation Medal, ORANG 30-Year Faithful Service Medal, ORANG Emergency Service Ribbon, and the ORANG Faithful Service Ribbon.

Smith and his wife Thuy, reside in Camas, Wash. She works for Purdy Corp. in Portland, Ore., where she has been employed for 28 years. They have two sons, Richard, an inspector/engineer for ODOT, and Christopher, an electrician for Riverside Electric in Vancouver, Wash.

## Command Sergeant Major Thomas R. Moe, incoming State Command Sergeant Major

Greetings,

I am State Command Sgt. Maj. Thomas Moe. It is my great privilege to serve my fellow soldiers and airmen in advising The Adjutant General on enlisted affairs throughout the state of Oregon and across the globe.

I joined the active Army in 1970 and served in Southwest Asia, as many soldiers did during that time. When I returned, I completed my tour in the active component and returned to Oregon. A year later, through a stroke of fate, I was called out of the Ready Reserve to join the Oregon Army National Guard. Since then I have had many opportunities to see our state, the nation, and the world and to be a part of our country's history.

I have served at all levels of the Army National Guard and the active Army. I have experience in Combat Arms, Combat Support, Combat Service Support. I have served on active duty, during long and short deployments and served during wartime. I even left the National Guard and the Army for a period of time, only to discover that I missed being a part of it.

Over the past three decades I have established a clear method of doing business; Treat everyone with respect; Expect everyone to be competent in their field at the appropriate level, mentor them if they are



not; Be unafraid to make the hard decision even if no one is watching; Don't make promises that you don't intend to keep or have no ability to keep; Everyone deserves a timely, true answer; and Meet or exceed the standards.

I offer the soldiers of the Oregon National Guard my experience and enthusiasm, belief in the value and values of the National Guard. The Soldiers and Airmen of the Oregon National Guard have the right to expect strong, capable leadership and should receive nothing less.

Thomas R. Moe  
State Command Sergeant Major  
Oregon National Guard

## Chief Master Sgt. J. Wayne Stuart, former State Command Chief Master Sergeant

This is my final article for the Oregon Sentinel as the State Chief Command Master Sergeant. How do you sum up 39 years in a couple of paragraphs?

Here's how: You say thank you to the great men, women and officers who you serve with. You acknowledge the outstanding leaders that provided you the opportunity to make a difference, by allowing you to fail and then helped you overcome those failures.

When I was given this opportunity in December 2000, there were many things I wanted to accomplish. Many are still undone, but we have made some positive changes and more will be completed in the future.

The State Chief Command Master Sergeant position is the best position in the Oregon Air National Guard. I was able to see the good, the bad, and the ugly. I am happy to report the good far outweighs the bad and the ugly.

The men and women of the Oregon Air National Guard are indeed the very best. We are a family — a very large family that supports and takes care of its own. When I retired as a technician four years ago, I mentioned some of the family members that have touched my life in the Guard. I am going to list them here, as well as a few new ones.

From Headquarters — Lt. Col. Marv Brant who hired me. Maj. Gen. Deb Ward; Chief Warrant Officer Jack Cronise; Brig. Gen. Bill Doctor; Col. Noel Kemmerich; Col. Gary Dean; Col. Spike McKinsie; Col. Larry Kemp; Col. Lyle Cabe; Chief Master Sgt. Wilber Ikelbure; Chief Master Sgt. Gene Thomas; Chief Master Sgt. Owen Hinkle; Chief Master Sgt. Vic Struznic; Chief Master Sgt. Rich Rydman; Brig. Gen. Jim Cunningham; Brig. Gen. Wayne Green;



Col. Bruce Marshall; Col. Dave Ferre; Maj. Ron Kessinger; Chief Master Sgt. Claudia Polen; Senior Master Sgt. Erin Parks; Senior Master Sgt. Ulana Cole; Senior Master Sgt. Mark Russell; Master Sgt. Linda Nunez and Mrs. Terri Kroeker.

All of these people live the Air Force Core Values — Integrity first, service before self, excellence in all we do.

When Gen. Cunningham selected me to be the first 142nd Fighter Wing SEA/CCM in July 1996, and then the State CCM in December 2000 he told me to "tell it like it is and I will support you." I am happy to report that I did tell it like it was, and he supported me in every way. It has been easy to represent the very best enlisted men and women in uniform.

Thank you everyone, for the career of a lifetime. Last but not least, thank you to my wife of 40 years, Sharon. I couldn't have done it without you.

God bless you all. God bless America

Wayne Stuart

## Sgt. Doug Anderson named new assistant IG



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy, State Public Affairs Office

Master Sgt. Douglas D. Anderson (r.) was sworn in as the Assistant Inspector General on May 27, 2004 at the Joint Forces Headquarters.

Anderson has a background as an Intelligence Analyst, previously working with the 82nd RTOC. He spent some time as the 234th Army Band Admin NCO, and recently served as the Operations NCO in the State Training Office.

Anderson and his wife Vicki Sue live in Tigard, Ore.

# Military Department brings Earth Day to Salem-Keizer school



Photo by Mary Jane Jacobsen, 115th MPAD/AGI-Environmental Department

Mark Stein and Jim Arnold (volunteers at the Water World booth) teach kids at John F. Kennedy School the differences in water sampled from several water sources in the Willamette Valley at a recent ORARNG-sponsored Earth Day event.

**By Sgt. Cherie Cavallaro,**  
State Public Affairs Office

**KEIZER, Ore.** – For the second year in a row, the Oregon Army National Guard sponsored an annual Earth Day event in April. This year, the event was held at John F. Kennedy Elementary School in Keizer. The 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade students experienced a day of hands-on learning, and environmental awareness.

With the help of several volunteers, teachers, and soldiers, the Installations Division Environmental Branch at Joint Forces Headquarters, solicited the Oregon Department of Education for a listing of schools most affected by the recent educational budget cuts. Robin Howard and several coworkers from the Installations office were credited with organizing the event.

“We felt that Earth Day should be a community outreach event and it is important to give the kids fun and easy earth friendly tips and treasures that will pay dividends for years

to come,” Howard said.

Howard began working in the Environmental Branch at JFHQ in 1998. Her desire to increase community awareness and to educate school-age children prompted her to spearhead events like Earth Day. After getting the go-ahead from managers, she began recruiting volunteers for a core group that would design and organize Earth Day 2004. They put together booths, gathered information, and planned activities throughout the first quarter of 2004.

Christi McAfee, one of the two 4<sup>th</sup> grade teachers worked closely with the Oregon National Guard to bring the event to Kennedy School.

“It’s amazing how the children are responding to this event, they each are so involved and enjoying the process,” McAfee said. “The whole event has been so well organized and the projects have engaged the children like we have never seen before, they are so enthusiastic about learning.”

An Oregon Army National Guard UH-60

“Blackhawk” helicopter touched down at the school in the morning. The crew; Staff Sgt. James G. Tournay, co-pilot 1<sup>st</sup> Lt. Sean Torgerson and pilot Chief Warrant Officer Earl K. Poole were greeted by surprised children, who ran to the aircraft as soon as the rotors stopped turning.

“It’s always good to get the kids interested in advanced technology fields early in life so they have a good idea of what they want to do later in life,” Poole said.

“Our biggest mission in the Pacific Northwest is fighting forest fires and protecting natural resources, and our aircraft are the best symbol of that mission,” Poole continued.

Students were allowed to climb into the helicopter, and several were allowed to be strapped into the pilot and co-pilot’s seats. The crew answered questions about their MEDEVAC and search and rescue missions. Poole told a few of them that if they could start it, they could fly it. Since the battery had been disconnected, there was little chance of the children following through on the offer.

“It’s still amusing and fun to watch them try though,” he added.

The students then moved to the school gymnasium, where several demonstration booths displayed different aspects of environmental care and awareness. Titles like “Oily Ocean”, “Disaster Clean-up”, “Hazardous Waste”, and “Global Warming” were familiar to many attendees. But there were booths issuing challenges specifically to the audience present that day, such as “The Brain Teaser Trivia Game”, “Traveling Museum of Oregon Prehistory” and “The Candy Land Fill”, which showed the kids how garbage is handled in landfills and what happens to it over time. Kids were asked to crush cookies, licorice, chocolate pudding, gummy bears, and other goodies, depositing them in layers to show how landfills can reach capacity in a short time.

Children learned about oil spills and the effects they can have on the environment. They donned jump suits and rubber gloves,

and tried to contain their own miniature ‘oil spill’. Others tested their knowledge of the environment, by participating in a mock trivia game where correct answers got them a book marker and a spin at the ‘prize wheel’, which determined what prize they could take home.

Also on hand was Scott Stuemke, Natural Resource Specialist for the Oregon Military Department, who demonstrated the age-old technique of flint knapping, the age-old art of stone tool manufacturing.

“These stone tools show the inter-relationship of Native Americans to their environment,” Stuemke said.

Accompanying him was Dr. Le Gilson, who brought with him several replicas of Native American artifacts, including baskets, fishing implements, and other every-day tools used by local area tribes. Their display illustrated how Native Americans wasted nothing – though animals were hunted for food, all their parts were used. Hides were used for clothing and shelter, bones, antlers, and even stomach linings were used as containers. The display helped children understand how people can be ‘stewards of the earth’.

“The kids are so fortunate to have such positive role models who are willing to teach them environmental awareness and make it fun,” McAfee said.

Everyone was a winner however, as t-shirts, tree seedlings, and other souvenirs were passed around. Each child also received information packets with directions and recipe cards so they could re-create the day’s activities when they got home. In return for the day of fun and education, the students of Kennedy School presented the ORARNG with hand-written thank you notes from each of the children, and a group student photo signed by all the children and teachers.

“I believe we succeeded far beyond our expectations this year,” Howard said. “We are already looking forward to next event in 2005.”

# Personality Profile: Vandervlugt leads Oregon marathon team

**Story by Maj. Mike Allegre**  
Public Affairs Officer,  
142nd Fighter Wing  
**and Col. Larry Studer,**  
Chief of Staff,  
Joint Force Headquarters

The Oregon National Guard’s five-man Marathon Team ended their two-year reign as champions at the Lincoln (Neb.) Marathon, May 3, while finishing a strong second to Puerto Rico in the 27<sup>th</sup> annual race. Three Oregon runners earned a spot on the all-Guard Marathon Team.

Sgt. First Class Tim Vandervlugt, A/1249th Engineer Battalion, led Oregon’s team while besting all National Guard runners with a finish time of 2 hours, 35 minutes, 1 second. He finished fourth place overall among 3,350 (200 Guard) runners. He was first in his age 35-39 group while just 4:46 behind the winning time over the challenging 26.2 mile course.

Vandervlugt said he felt confident he could run the course in 2:40:00 or faster. A runner for most of his life, Vandervlugt ran on the Eastern Oregon University Track and Cross Country Teams, and has been a member of the Guard since 1989, and recently returned from deployment at Ft. Lewis, Wash., in support of Operation Noble Eagle. While deployed, he trained with and earned a position on the Ft. Lewis running team, which won the 2003 Army Ten-Miler. Vandervlugt has run the Lincoln Marathon for ten years.

Oregon’s other three top finishers who earned spots on the all-Guard Team included: 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Sean Nixon, C/1-162 Infantry (2:41:36); 2<sup>nd</sup> Lt. Peter Pritchett, 741 CSB, (2:55:19), and SMSgt. Max White, 142nd FW/HQ, (3:08:14). Running in his 16<sup>th</sup> Lincoln Marathon, White finished third in

his military age (50-54) division and fifth overall in that age category.

White has run 16 Lincoln Marathons and been named to the all-Guard team 16 times. Nixon (11<sup>th</sup> overall and 6<sup>th</sup> among Guard runners) was second among runners aged 30-34 and first in his military age division. Pritchett finished 35<sup>th</sup> overall and both soldiers earned their third selection to the All Guard Team. Oregon Joint Forces HQ Chief of Staff, Col. Larry Studer, also ran and was clocked in 4:11:34.

Oregon’s Acting Adjutant General, Brig. Gen. Raymond Byrne, later thanked and congratulated the team members on their performance.

“Running a marathon, as in life, requires focus, good work ethics, proper training, physical and mental strength, and vision of your goal,” Byrne said. “These attributes make our soldiers, airmen, and civilian employees successful as well. The Oregon National Guard is fortunate and blessed to have dedicated members and employees represent us at national events such as the Lincoln Marathon.” For the first time the National Guard Bureau co-sponsored this marathon and conducted a Recruiting Workshop to focus participants on the importance of health and fitness and on being role models for recruits and in the community. White was presented one of only three awards given nationally for “Excellence in Recruiting and Retention.”

A record number of marathoners and half-marathoners, including National Guard members from 48 states and Puerto Rico, enjoyed near perfect running conditions. The runners were greeted with a clear sunny day, winds of 4 to 14 mph, and temperatures ranging from the high 30s at the start of the race to mid 50s by the time



The Oregon National Guard Marathon Team, from l. to r.: 2nd Lt. Sean Nixon, Col. Larry Studer, Sgt. 1st. Class Tim Vandervlugt, 2nd Lt. Peter Pritchett, SMSgt. Max White.

the final runner crossed the finish line. This was a welcomed change for all runners who ran in last year’s marathon, which was delayed because of tornado warnings, with thunderstorms and heavy rain threatening throughout the race.

The All Guard Marathon Team is comprised of the fastest male and female runners from these time trials. They will participate in several major marathons during the year including the Marine Corps, Blue Angels, Air Force, Chicago and San Diego Marathons. They will also run in international competitions.

Top National Guard athletes may qualify for the World Class Athlete Program

(WCAP). This program is designed to afford elite athletes currently in the National Guard the opportunity to participate in the sports competition arena. This program offers select individuals the opportunity to compete at the highest level of competition. Oregon has had several athletes participate in this program over the years. Exceptional ORNG athletes interested in this program should consult AR 215-1 for further information regarding WCAP.

Oregon Guard members interested in the Oregon National Guard Marathon Team should contact Vandervlugt (541-390-3157, or email: timothy.vandervlugt@or.ngb.army.mil).

# Gen. Wilson: "Soldiers did their duty with grace and elan"



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy, State Public Affairs Office

Second Lieutenant Jonathan Van Horne is welcomed by his wife Shannon and their sons Jacob, Nathan and Mychal, at the Salem Armory on April 9.

Continued from PAGE 1

Bronze Stars, 296 Army Accommodation Medals (ARCOM's) and 15 Navy Achievement Medals, comprising the individual awards. The entire Battalion was awarded a CIB Streamer, and Operation Iraqi Freedom Streamer, they were nominated for the Army Meritorious Unit Citation, and were one of two units selected for the Department of the Army's Deployment Excellence Award.

"I don't know if we've had battalions do that well," Wilson concluded. His comments raised cheers from the soldiers, which reached a fever pitch when the General added, "And there were no KIAs (killed in action) or serious injuries. On the lighter side of things, Wilson shared some statistics with the crowd. "There were thirty-two babies born while you were gone – I think you live by your motto – 1<sup>st</sup> to assemble."

Heard just above the chuckling in the crowd, one soldier said, "Future Force

Sir."

As the gathering ended, Wilson said, "Each one of you made a difference, and this is the prettiest day they've had at Ft. Lewis in five years... this is for you!"

"I would be proud to stand in your formation, God bless you and thank you," he added.

Brigadier General Raymond C. Byrne Jr., Acting Adjutant General for the state of Oregon reminded the soldiers of what they would need to accomplish as they progressed through their demobilization process prior to their return to Salem that Thursday. The soldiers then left the chapel to waiting families and had a chance to relax after the morning's activities. Outside the chapel Gen. Wilson continued to praise

## "Each one of you made a difference."

the men. He said, "I think this Battalion is one of the best Battalions we have in the Army, and as the 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Commander, I am so proud of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 162<sup>nd</sup> Infantry and what they did. They did it with grace and élan."

On Thursday, April 8, the unit returned to the Salem Armory, and more friends and family, who waited for their arrival for over 3 hours. Eight busses, escorted by a fleet of POV's carrying more troops and their families pulled into the armory grounds through a make-shift archway created by Salem Fire Department ladder trucks. Hanging from the apex of the arch was a welcomed sight – the United States flag framed by the



1-162's home while in Iraq, Camp Kalsu, as seen from the air.

now-setting sun.

The excitement was thick in the air as the crowd cheered, raising banners and flags as the busses pulled to a stop in the armory parking lot. Following closely behind was a group of Harley-Davidson motorcycle riders from the Salem Chapter of the Harley Owner's Group, the Veteran's Motorcycle Association and other HOG Chapters from around the state.

Loved ones rushed forward and disappeared in between busses searching for familiar faces. As hugs, tears and kisses were exchanged, the sun bid farewell to the Pacific Northwest behind the horizon. Tonight, hundreds of families would sleep soundly, knowing that their loved ones were safe at home, back from a successful deployment.

## Rocko: ORARNG dog stays in the 'family'

Story and photo by  
Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy  
State Public Affairs Office

Most people who have served in the National Guard agree, it is a family. It's no surprise then that this family unit would extend to include furry four-legged pals as well.

Rocko, a mini-schnauzer, originally lived with Lt. Col. Dan Breckel and his wife Laurie. Breckel, commander of the 365<sup>th</sup> Civil Affairs Unit (USAR) was deployed to Afghanistan when tragedy struck. Laurie, his wife of 14 years, passed away in their northeast Portland home, leaving Rocko without a human caretaker.

Enter Mark Williams of Dayton, Ore. Williams, Laurie's brother, agreed to help his brother-in-law find a home for Rocko, since the nature of Breckel's work would take him away from Oregon for extended periods of time. As director of the Salem Community Chorus, Williams had a wide network in which to search for Rocko's new family. Keeping Rocko in his house was unrealistic because the Williams household already had three dogs, and because Rocko was essentially part of *his* family, Williams' task of finding a new home for the dog took on a special precedence.

"Finding a home for Rocko was very personal," Williams said. "Dan loved Rocko... when he went jogging in the morning, Rocko would run with him. When Dan was overseas, he became my sister's [Laurie's] companion."

Williams spoke about the dog at one of the Chorus' meetings one evening, catching the attention of Staff Sgt. Tomas F. Franco, of HHD, JFHQ in Salem. "Tom said to me, 'Hey, he's a military doggie, he belongs with a military family,'" said Williams about Franco's initial reaction to Rocko's dilemma.

"He [Williams] asked the chorus group if anybody could take him in and after telling us a little about him I seized the opportunity," Franco said. "He then went on with the rest of the story concerning



Rocko (l.) and Staff Sgt. Tomas Franco (r.) take a break from their busy schedule in front of the Joint Forces Headquarters building.

how Rocko became homeless. And then everybody wanted him but it was too late. He was already mine."

"It seems like Tom and Rocko hit it off right away," said Williams. "When Tom [Franco] came out to the house, Rocko jumped right into his truck. And that was it."

Bringing a pet into the home is not a light endeavor, according to Franco.

"For a healthy relationship between a human and an animal it needs to be gentle and kind," Franco said. "This does require bringing the pet into the household and not just into the house."

When asked about the turn of events that brought him to be with Franco, Rocco simply licked the microphone and declined comment.

"I think Rocko is an optimistic dog," said Williams. "You can tell some dogs are just happy with their situation. When he gets

fed, you can tell this is great food. When he sees people, you can tell he loves the person he's meeting. When he goes running, you can tell this is the best run he's ever been on. Optimism plays a big part in his life journey," Williams concluded.

"Rocko is a good and faithful companion," Franco said. "With such a vibrant personality he not only brings motivation but laughter as well."

Though Rocko remains silent, reputable sources within the National Guard agree that he was fortunate to be part of the Guard family.

If you would like to meet Rocko, or have an interest in the Salem Community Chorus, a secular group that brings together individuals with an appreciation for singing and music, contact Staff Sgt. Tomas Franco at 503-584-3894, or via e-mail at tomas.franco@or.ngb.army.mil.

## 82nd ROC completes mission in Iraq

Story by Kay F. Fristad,  
State Public Affairs Office

LAKE OSWEGO, Ore. – On April 10, the 82nd ROC returned to their home station at the Lake Oswego Armory. They were deployed to Iraq for 14 months, where they took part in Command and Control at LSA Anaconda. They completed their out-processing at Ft. Lewis, Wash., and traveled back to their home station via privately-owned vehicles. Waiting patiently for their arrival were families and friends waving flags, banners, flowers and huge smiles.

New babies and grandchildren, children, wives, husbands, and members of the media insured their arrival back home was a joyous occasion.

It was evident that the signs of the deployment lingered on as the cultural differences practiced in a foreign country remained automatic to these men and women. All returned safe and happy, although changed by their long absence from home, and their being witness of a nation at war.

Their return was delayed by several weeks and they departed just four days prior to a possible extension for an additional three to four months to help maintain strength requirements.

"We got out just in time," Maj. Scott Farish said as he introduced his family.

## Eberhart visits with ORANG commanders while in Oregon



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Todd Enlund, 142nd Multimedia

Col. Brad Applegate, 142nd FW Commander, greets Gen. Eberhart during his visit to the Portland Air Base in April.

Continued from PAGE 1

high-yield explosive weapons, ballistic and cruise missiles, and electronic/cyber warfare. These threats have given way to an era of new vulnerabilities – enemies may strike the U.S. in new and unsuspecting ways.

As keynote speaker at the annual Oregon National Guard Officer's Association Conference, Eberhart had high praise and gratitude for soldiers and airman serving in the Guard.

"NORTHCOM was established mainly to provide Homeland Defense and support to civil authorities." He said. "We're here to deter, prevent, and defeat an enemy—that's our focus. Today's global war on terrorism will be what the Cold War was after World War II. We must stay the course and remain strong. It's tempting for us to believe the danger is behind us. That's false," he continued.

Eberhart identified the challenges for the new Homeland Defense organization, "We need to redefine jointness, our new coalition, and increase our interoperability between five military services plus the other federal agencies." Eberhart told Oregon's Air and Army Guard officers that America is much

better off militarily since 9-11.

"We've flown over 35,000 sorties over America since 9-11 and we'll continue to secure the skies and remain a deterrent for years to come. We must keep the war on terror an away game, not a home game. Terrorists are hoping Americans will have short memories, therefore we need to perform exercises in our new coalition environment," he said.

"We must continue to maintain our grassroots community support. Your role of defending our homeland will increase because the Guard responds better and faster, but we can't do this at the expense of being unable to respond overseas. You must be exposed to the worldwide mission," Eberhart concluded.

During his two-day trip to Oregon, Eberhart visited the 142nd Fighter Wing at the Portland Air Base.

Eberhart received Oregon ANG mission briefings from Col. Brad Applegate, 142nd FW Commander and Col. John Adkisson, 173rd Fighter Wing Commander on the Apr. 23. Later that same day, Eberhart spoke to civic leaders at Portland's City Club and entertained questions in an interview for the Oregonian.

## NASCAR makes pitstop in Albany



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy, State Public Affairs Office

One of the nationally-sponsored Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve "America's Car" race cars made its way through Albany, Ore., appearing at the Linn County Fairgrounds on May 12, 2004. The NASCAR race car was featured at an ESGR-sponsored luncheon held in honor of local employers for their support of Oregon National Guard units. The former race car (now retired, but several just like it still compete in NASCAR events), was used throughout the day as a colorful backdrop for attendees' photos. The banner seen in the background also tours with the car, and is available for signing by event attendees. The banner will eventually be sent to the Iraqi theater as part of a goodwill-USO visit. Posing with the car from l. to r.: Brig. Gen. Raymond C. Byrne, Acting Adjutant General; Jim Cleary, State Chairman ESGR; Col. (Ret.) Bob Elliott, ESGR Executive Director, Don Tucker, ESGR Employer Outreach Chairperson; Bill Van Natta, Salem-ARC ESGR Representative (front).

## ORARNG unit ambushed in Iraq took part in security missions

Continued from PAGE 1

Molero to the other side of the vehicle. As fighting continued, Wilson tried to get up but fell across the side of the vehicle.

"He wanted to keep on fighting," said Molero. "He wanted us to keep on fighting." As Wilson told Baldwin and Molero to continue engaging the enemy, the duo ignored his order and opened the combat lifesaver bag looking for medical equipment.

"I was throwing stuff everywhere because I couldn't find what I wanted," said Molero. "Then it hit me that I could use my bayonet."

Molero and Baldwin tied a tourniquet on Wilson's leg using a belt and a bayonet cover to stop the bleeding.

Baldwin yelled forward to let Jones know Wilson was hurt.

"It was hard to communicate," said Jones. "At first I thought they said he had a broken leg but Baldwin said 'You don't understand, his leg is gone.'"

Getting on the radio, Jones reported there was a casualty and they needed to get Wilson medical attention. Seven and half minutes later they arrived at a medical facility. Wilson was in good spirits – he even joked with the medics.

"I guess I won't be doing anymore three legged races."

Baldwin and Molero were dazed. It was the same scenario in Ft. Polk La., where Wilson also wanted to keep on fighting after he had been 'mock' injured.

## Mt. Angel business donates BBQ supplies to ORARNG troops deploying to Cuba



Photo by Kay F. Fristad, State Public Affairs Office

On Saturday, May 29, 2004, Capt. Trent Klug (center right) and 1st Sgt. Mike Schuman (right) presented Traeger Industries with a plaque of appreciation for their support of the men and women of the 1186th Military Police Company.

Traeger Industries, based in Mt. Angel, Ore., provided a pellet barbeque and 1,000 pounds of wood pellets to the unit. They will take the barbeque with them on their deployment to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Hometown support like this is widespread in Oregon and the gift from Traeger will likely help to keep morale high while these men and women are away from home, families and jobs.

Pictured above, from l. to r.: Wade Wiegand, National Smokehouse Director; Chris Ward, Sales Representative, Traeger Industries; Capt. Trent Klug, Commander, 1186th Military Police Company; and 1st Sgt. Michael Schuman also of the 1186th MP Co.

## Cavalry 'Soirée' set for Sept. 3-5

The Oregon Army National Guard will host the Cavalry Soirée, Sept 3-5, 2004 at Warrior Hall, bldg. 7022, at Camp Rilea in Warrenton, Ore. Registration starts on Friday, Sept 3, 2004.

A \$21.00 registration fee is required for each attendee upon sign-in. This fee will cover the cost of a hosted social on Friday evening, and a prime rib dinner on Saturday evening at Warrior Hall. Spouses and guests who wish to attend the social and the dinner will also be required to pay the registration fee.

Lodging at Camp Rilea will be provided on a first-come, first-serve basis. Rooms are available at Koski Hall, which has 72 rooms available at \$15.00 per-night for a single bed, \$20.00 per-night for a double bed, or \$25.00 per night for a suite. Reservations for all lodging can be made by calling Camp Rilea Billeting at 503-861-4052. Please identify yourself as a National Guardsman attending the CAV Soirée.

For more information, please contact Ronald D. Kinsley or Tina Bigelow at 503-861-4007 or via e-mail at [tina.bigelow@or.ngb.army.mil](mailto:tina.bigelow@or.ngb.army.mil).

## 15th Military Ball a huge success

The 15th Annual Military Ball was held on May 22 at the Evergreen Aviation Museum. A record attendance was set by some 650 people who enjoyed a night of dancing, glitz and glamour, with entertainment provided by the 234th Army Band. Proceeds from the silent auction and ticket and wine sales were donated to the Oregon National Guard Emergency Relief Fund.

The event was organized by Ms. Gloria Kazmierski, Chief Master Sgt. John Rasmussen, Senior Master Sgt. Mary Davison, Sgt. 1st Class Kelly Waldien, Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy, and Mrs. Doneille Chomiak, with Tracy Ann Gill as the chairperson.

"A lot of planning goes into making the evening special," Gill said. "The committee values any feedback the attendees might have."

Planning of next year's event will begin shortly. If you are interested in being on the planning committee, or have pictures from this year's event that you would like to share, please contact Tracy Ann Gill via e-mail at [tracyann.gill@or.ngb.army.mil](mailto:tracyann.gill@or.ngb.army.mil).

## News You Need to Know

### Vets sought for National memorial

Several groups are trying to register veterans for the National World War II Memorial currently under construction in Washington D.C.

Evidently, not many people know about the registration. Out of some 16 million people who served in WWII, only 1.5 million are actually registered. Veterans groups and individuals involved in the effort are concerned that many will be left out without even knowing about the memorial.

"Some of those grandkids will go there [to the memorial] and say, 'Hey, Granddad isn't in here.'" Said Wayne Finnegan, a WWII veteran who served in the South Pacific aboard the USS Tingey (DD 539).

About 30 years ago, the government lost about 80-percent of its paper records in a fire, according to Betsy Glick, spokeswoman for the memorial. Records still exist for people buried overseas, those listed on the American Battle Monuments Commission Walls of the Missing, and those listed as official Navy and war deaths, Glick added.

In order to complete the database, memorial officials have been sending information to veteran's groups, clubs, and publications since the mid-1990s. Anyone can nominate a World War II veteran, according to Glick, as long as they have their name, hometown and branch of service. The nomination process is open to anyone who served in the war effort, in either the military, civilian sector, or government contractors. "Even those who knitted socks for the troops," Glick said.

The names of those who served will not be written on the walls of the memorial, but will be included in a searchable database that visitors can access on computer terminals at the memorial. Memorial officials plan to leave the database open indefinitely, allowing family members and loved ones to add names and information later if they visit the memorial and don't find the person(s) who served in the war.

Work on the memorial began in late-2001, and is nearly finished. Donations to the memorial fund are encouraged. They can be sent to the American Battle Monuments Commission.

The memorial will be formally dedicated during the Memorial Day weekend. Live coverage of the dedication ceremony can be seen on Saturday, May 29 at 5 p.m. on C-SPAN and on the History Channel.

To register a World War II veteran, or anyone who served in the war effort here or abroad, call 1-800-639-4992 for more information.

### Vietnam Memorial Wall to visit Oregon

The Moving Wall – a 400-foot replica of the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial wall, also known simply as "The Wall", and is located in Washington D.C. – will be in Grants Pass, Ore. on June 25-27.

The Moving Wall's tour of Oregon is being hosted by Chapter 867 of the Vietnam Veterans of America and Point Man Ministries. Both organizations encourage your support and sponsorship to help defray any costs. Proceeds not used to bring the Moving Wall to Oregon will be dedicated to the Local Veterans Service Office to help offset costs associated with helping all living veterans.

The Vietnam Veteran's Memorial Wall in Washington D.C. is a compelling symbol of a decade of intense emotion, social upheaval, and tragedy that changed most Americans forever.

For more information on the Moving Wall tour, or for questions regarding donations, please contact Dave M Buckland at 541-474-1441.

### Flag insignia deadline draws near

The current policy of deployed soldiers wearing the U.S. Flag on utility uniforms has expanded to include all soldiers throughout the force regardless of deployment status. All units have been directed to comply with this directive by July 31, 2004.

Each soldier is required to have the Reverse Field-Color US flag sewn onto BDU, DCU, maternity BDU, aircrew BDU, and combat vehicle crewman uniform and jacket (cold weather).

Patches will be provided for all enlisted soldiers, while officers will need to obtain the US flag at their own expense. For both enlisted and officers, the USPFO will procure and attach the US flag at government expense on the following uniforms: DCU, maternity BDU, aircrew BDU, and the combat vehicle crewman uniform (NOMEX).

The Reverse Field-Color U.S. flag will be sewn on 1/2 inch below the right shoulder seam of the utility uniform. When a combat patch is worn on the right shoulder of the utility uniform, the U.S. flag insignia will be placed 1/8 inch below the combat patch.

For more information, please contact Sgt. Major Donald Newman at (503) 584-3997.

### Coast Guard awards OR Army Band

Oregon Army National Guard's 234<sup>th</sup> Band was recently awarded the U.S. Coast Guard's Meritorious Service Medal for their performance during U.S. Coast Guard Air Station Astoria's Change of Command ceremony.

According to the citation from Capt. M.P. Farrell, Commander, U.S. Coast Guard Group/Air Station Astoria, members of the 234<sup>th</sup> Army Band, "...displayed impressive musicianship, excellent military bearing, and spectacular team precision" during their performance in June 2003.

"This is yet another fine example of the synergistic relationship between all branches of the military during our organization's move toward a truly joint force," said Oregon National Guard Public Affairs Officer, Maj. Arnold V. Strong.

The ceremony took place on June 19, 2003 at U.S. Coast Guard Station Astoria, before approximately 400 Coast Guard, Oregon National Guard and civilian attendees.

### New COLA amounts

Each year Retirement pay has been increased to meet the rise in the nation's cost of living. Cost-of-Living Adjustments (COLAs) were made effective December 1, 2003, based upon the increase in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) through September 2003. The term "retired pay" includes retainer pay and the term "members" includes former members. For pay charts and additional information on COLAs for Survivor Annuities, visit Millitary.com, located at: <http://www.military.com/Resources/ResourcesContent/0,13964,31662,00.html>

### Some Guard, Reservists eligible for retirement and disability

If you are retired from the Reserve or National Guard with a VA rating of 50% or better, no matter what you have been told in the past, you may still qualify for Concurrent Retirement and Disability Pay (CRDP), formerly Concurrent Receipt, even if you were medically retired under Chapter 61. Up until recently DFAS has been telling Reserve and Guard retirees that they had to have a minimum of 7200 points to qualify for CRDP. DFAS has now realized their er-

### ORNG meets real-life 'Brother in arms'



(l. to r.): Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Mark Browning, Sgt. Peter Seaberg, Mr. Don Malarkey (Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Ret.), Master Sgt. Michael Bruno, and Sgt. Robert Ball. Malarkey, former Paratrooper with Easy Co., 506<sup>th</sup> PIR was the keynote speaker at "Veterans Appreciation Night" at Liberty High School on April 19, 2004. Easy Company and the 506<sup>th</sup> PIR were featured in the HBO series, Band of Brothers.

ror. Any retired reservist or guardsman that has "20 Good Years" and meets the remaining eligibility requirements is eligible to get their CRDP benefits just like their active duty counterparts. The hang-up in the past was that DFAS was using 7200 points as the determinant factor. For more information, please visit: [http://www.military.com/Finance/Content?file=Retirement\\_CRDP.htm&area=Content](http://www.military.com/Finance/Content?file=Retirement_CRDP.htm&area=Content)

### DoD issues mandatory request for Civilian Employer Info

The Department of Defense has implemented a mandatory Reserve component Civilian Employer Information database, culminating a year-long effort to establish a Department of Defense-wide system to capture and understand who employs the 1.2 million members of the seven Reserve components in the United States.

Members of the Army National Guard, Air National Guard, Navy Individual Ready Reserve and Coast Guard Reservists can begin entering their employer information on the new Defense Manpower Data Center web site at <https://www.dmdc.osd.mil/Guard-ReservePortal>. Army Reserve soldiers can enter their employer data at <https://www.hrc.army.mil>. Navy Selected Reservists will enter their employer data at <https://nsips.nmci.navy.mil>, and Marine Reservists will enter their employer data at <https://www.mol.usmc.mil/>.

For further information, please contact Lt. Col. Bob Stone at [bob.stone@osd.mil](mailto:bob.stone@osd.mil)

### VA expands hospital liaison offices

The Department of Veterans Affairs has expanded its liaison offices to now support 136 military installations to assist with Soldier transition from active duty and it is working to make it easier for disabled Soldiers to get the help they need. Part of the expanded VA service on military installations is ensuring a VA counselor talks to wounded veterans in military hospitals before those veterans are discharged from the military service.

Those hospitals include Walter Reed Medical Center, Washington, D.C.; Eisenhower Army Medical Center, Fort Gordon, Ga.; Brooke Army Medical Center, Fort Sam Houston, Texas; and Madigan Army Medical Center at Western Regional Medical Command, Tacoma, Wash.

For more information, see [http://www.military.com/NewsContent/0,13319,usa2\\_051104,00.html](http://www.military.com/NewsContent/0,13319,usa2_051104,00.html)

### Tyson products to display ESGR logo

The National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) in March announced that Tyson Foods' military product labels will include the ESGR logo in honor of the contributions of the men and women of the Guard and Reserve to Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom. Along with the ESGR logo, the phrase "Proud Recipient of the Freedom Award" will be included to recognize Tyson Foods for receiving the Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award in 2003.

"We are proud to include the ESGR logo on our military packaging", said John Tyson, Chairman and CEO of Tyson Foods. "This is another effort in honoring our Team Members and their families who are serving in the military. We appreciate their sacrifice insuring the peace and security of our country."

Tyson Foods is the world's largest processor and marketer of chicken, beef and pork, and the second largest food company in the Fortune 500. Founded in 1935 with headquarters in Springdale, Arkansas, the company has approximately 120,000 team members and 300 facilities and offices in 26 states and 22 countries.

"Mr. John Tyson is a true American Patriot who is whole-heartily committed to his employees who serve voluntarily in the Guard and Reserve. Employer advocates such as Tyson Foods willingly serve as role models in their industries. They are an example to other employers of patriotic support that goes "Above and Beyond" what is required by law", said Bob Hollingsworth, ESGR Executive Director.

"We are honored to have the ESGR logo on Tyson Foods' military packaging. This is a first for ESGR, and we are thrilled that the men and women of our armed forces will see that Tyson Foods is a 'Proud Recipient of the Freedom Award' above the ESGR logo", added Hollingsworth.

### ORANG names 2004 recruiter of the year

The Oregon Air National Guard has named the 2004 Recruiter and Unit Career Advisor of The Year. Tech. Sgt. Marilyn C. Crow, of Joint Forces Headquarters, Air Component, was named Recruiter of the Year, and Tech. Sgt. Robert A. Mazingo, 173<sup>rd</sup> Logistics Readiness Squadron was named Unit Career Advisor of the Year.

Congratulations to all the 2004 nominees and the winners.

Members of the 1186th Military Police Company stand in formation at the unit's activation ceremony on May 26, 2004 at the Salem Army Adm. Facilities. Family members and dignitaries were on hand to honor the deploying soldiers. The unit will deploy for approximately one year to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.



THE OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER

# Oregon Sentinel



OF THE OREGON NATIONAL GUARD

Photo by Tech. Sgt. Nick Choy, State Public Affairs Office



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## Veteran's Park dedication set for Sep 25



The Oregon Heritage Education Center will dedicate the Veteran's Park next to the Oregon Military Department on September 25, 2004.

The non-profit group hopes to raise funding to build a 10,000 square-foot educational center on the park's grounds. The building will serve as a repository which will share stories of Oregon's military veterans; of which there are approximately 356,000 living in Oregon alone.

If you would like to make a donation to the foundation, or have any questions regarding the dedication ceremony, please call 1-877-589-9757 for more information.

## WARRIOR SPIRIT CHALLENGE

1 May - 30 Sep 2004

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