# the DEVIL'S CORNER

ISO07 July & August 2012 EDITION

#### SGT. KERRY LAWSON, 1ST ABCT

Spc. John Moon, company B, 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, prepares to fire the M136 ATL4; 84-mm unguided, portable breaching weapon at a simulated bunker Aug. 14 during the Expert Infantry Badge competition. Using the AT-4 was one of ten tasks within the patrol lane that he was tested on. There were three lanes which had 10 tasks each and a time limit of 20 minutes. Moon also has to complete an Army physical fitness test, day and night land navigation, and a 12-mile ruck-march in less than the three hour time limit. "I wanted to compete for the EIB, because I wanted a challenge myself," Moon said.

## THE DEVIL'S CORNER

1/1 ABCT COMMANDER Col. Michael Pappal 1/1 ABCT COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR CSM Mark A. Kiefer







THE 'DEVIL' BRIGADE

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vFRG website: Family Members and Approved Personal can also go onto the vFRG and log into their Soldier's BN's vFRG site, where more information can be found. <u>www.armyfrg.org</u>

# 'Devil' PAO

Email: 1stid.devil.pao@gmail.com

# **BEVIL**

Devils and the rest of the Devil Family, it's hard to believe that it is already mid-August and school is starting. Time goes fast when you are busy and really getting into your work and training.

It was only a year ago that the Brigade Headquarters, BSTB, and BSB were packing conexes to leave Kirkuk and all the battalions were fully involved in combat operations.

We have had a full and effective schedule. The sound throughout the day of Hamilton's Own shooting their Paladins, the first time firing the big guns for many, is like music to an ABCT and is a reminder of our offensive combat focused training to be the premier and most modern Armored Brigade Combat Team in the Army. BSB conducted some great combat focused unstabilized crew gunnery, improving their combat capabilities and protection while developing a new generation of logistic meat eaters.

Our infantrymen have also had some great training in preparation for and competing in the Expert Infantryman's Badge. As of this morning 23 of the original 178 remained to conduct the 20 km foot march. This just goes to show that this badge is not just a piece of metal. You truly have to be an expert to earn it.

Congratulations to those who have done so.

Our command posts are getting set up, our signalers are getting our tactical digital systems up and running, mechanics are turning



wrenches, the Devil's Den continues to improve our chow, the HUMINT are conducting STX, the maneuver companies are getting out and practicing terrain driving, and there is so much more that I can't name it all.

Finally, I want to thank everyone that we have sent to the Combat Training Centers to coach, teach, mentor, and train other units in the Army. Your professionalism improves the entire force and is critical to getting units prepared for their deployment. Our gain is the knowledge you develop as a Leader that you bring back to your unit. Amazing job by all of you.

I want to make sure that everyone knows my open door policy. If you have a problem that you do not think is being addressed, has hit a road block, or if the problem is your Leaders then come and see me.

Seeing me is easy, you just have to come to the Brigade Headquarters and I will see you then or setup an appointment, stop me if you see me, or call PFC Oudman at (785-239-6826) to make an appointment. Nobody is allowed to stop you from doing that. Your BN CDRs have the same policy so use them also.

You all are the Devil Brigade and you make me proud everyday to be able to lead this fantastic organization. Keep up the great work, enthusiasm, and standards as we enter the fall training season.

NO MISSION TOO DIFFICULT. NO SACRIFICE TOO GREAT. DUTY FIRST.

For my first installment in the Devil Newsletter, I would like to formally introduce myself to the Soldiers, Civilians and Families of the Devil Brigade.

I am Command Sergeant Major Mark A. Kiefer and I am arriving from the 25ID in Hawaii where I served as CSM for 3-4 Cavalry and 3-7 Field Artillery since October 2008.

On behalf of me and my wife Patty, it is truly an honor to be a part of not only such a historic post in the Army, but possibly the most storied Brigade Combat Team in the Army.

After nearly six years away from the Armored forces, it feels good to be home again. Patty and I look forward to the future and hope that in the coming months we get to meet everyone. I want to personally thank everyone for such a warm and accommodating welcome as we transitioned into the team.

Before I continue I have to offer a sincere note of gratitude to CSM Thomas Kenny for not only standing in the gap and serving the Brigade as its interim CSM for over a year, but for the effort to reach out and meet our needs as we moved from Hawaii to Kansas.

He was my first impression of the BCT and it couldn't be more of a positive experience for us. If every newly arriving Devil is received in a similar manner, then our Sponsorship Program is excellent.

CSM Kenny's presence and outstanding leadership will now go to the benefit of the troopers in the Pale Rider Squadron.

In the coming months, I will



focus my articles on the various topics that I have learned throughout nearly 27 years of service that helped shape who I am as a Soldier and a leader in today's Army.

I will address everything from leadership techniques to philosophy on what shapes an organization and its Soldiers. The calendar is full of outstanding training events in the very near future from Tank and Bradley OPNET to the EIB competition.

It will be a great opportunity for me to get out and see Soldiers training and preparing to meet the Nation's future force projection needs. I look forward to the next few years of serving this Brigade, and once again, I am extremely honored to be on your team.

#### NO MISSION TOO DIFFICULT. NO SACRIFICE TOO GREAT. DUTY FIRST.

DEVIL 7

Contact Info:

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Permanent Change of Station

We just unpacked our last box from our recent Permanent Change of Station (PCS) to Fort Riley. Though I think we need to rethink the name for our military moves, after all we all know how temporary your permanent stays really are. If we are fortunate we stay at one Army post for three years before we pack up again for another permanent change of station. I love the PCS adventure of moving around the United States and the world with the Army but I am beginning to really dislike the process of unpacking.

We have all been there when you see your favorite piece of furniture come off the moving truck in broken pieces, or unwrapping the family heirloom the packers so nicely wrapped only to discover it has been crushed to pieces in the box. Or worse, for our children to discover their favorite toy has just vanished in the move. (I am still looking for a Major Matt Mason space station from my childhood as a military brat that vanished during a childhood PCS). Military life is stressful. This last PCS reminded me of what a seasoned army wife told me and my wife years ago—never even talk about divorce during a PCS!

Moving is just too stressful of a time already. Military life is full of change and full of stress. It is ironic in my mind that they very things that stress us out are also the very things that toughen us up. And the fact is that as we deal with a hardship and overcame it we gain confidence that we can face the next challenge and overcome it as well. This spirit is the heartbeat of the Army family. The Army calls this spirit "resilience," which by short definition is the speedy recovery from hardship.

I want to encourage you when in the midst of hardship you don't have to go it alone. The first cry of my heart when I undergo challenge is, "God, help me!" You find that cry for help throughout scripture. My default mode is to turn to God when life gets me down. As an Army Chaplain I serve the Soldier and Family members to help them find that spark from God that can spiritually generate tremendous life change. With God's help I discover that I can handle so much more than I ever thought possible.

I like the Air Forces' motto: Aim High. Sometimes that is the very best advice for us in the midst of trials and hardship; look up to the heavens and set your sight on God and then get out of bed and live your day with the confidence that by God's grace you will overcome!

Unit Chaplains Contact Information

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2-34 CH (CPT) Parks 785-240-2444

4-4 CH (CPT) Remy - no number

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> 1-16 CH(CPT) Ball 785-240-3111

1 EN CH (1LT) Sanders 785-240-5972

1-5 CH (CPT) Jung - no number



5

# Need to contact your Family Readiness Support Assistant? (FRSA)



THROUGH





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> > 2-34 AR

785-240-6728





4-4 CAV

785-240-4644







# what makes you STRONG?



SGT Joseph Howard Scout, C Trp, 4/4 CAV

My family being here for me to give me their support. My motivation comes from them.



SPC Steven Santana Medic, HHB, 1 / 5 FA

My family keeps me going, especially my daughter. Making sure I provide for her everyday keeps me coming in. She's my pride and joy.



SGT John Leggett A Co, 2/34 AR

My Soldiers that work hard for me daily.



SGT Bo Fietshans HHC, 1/16 IN

The Army values and being an Iron Ranger.

# SOLDIER HIGHLIGHTS



Sgt. Kerry Lawson, 1st ABCT

Pvt. Christian Marquez, Company B, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, works on is disassembling and reassembling of the M249 squad automatic weapon portion, one of ten tasks on the tactical control point lane during the Expert Infantry Badge competition Aug. 14. There were three lanes which have 10 tasks each and a time limit of 20 minutes. Marquez also has to complete an Army physical fitness test, day and night land navigation, and a 12-mile ruck-march in less than three hours. The candidates must also be an infantryman to be allowed to compete for the badge. "To get the EIB would be awesome," Marquez said. "It's not easy to get."

## **Expert Infantryman Badge**

178 Devil Brigade Soldiers compete for the Expert Infantryman Badge beginning August 15. The EIB is presented for completion of a course of testing designed to demonstrate proficiency in infantry skills

# 22 Soldiers who completed the EIB are...

1	1LT Chris Bell	B 1-16
2	PVT Danel Bisland	B 1-16
3	SPC Joseph Fuerch	A 1-16
4	SGT. Justin Hammond	HHC 1-1
5	1LT James Jones	HHC 1-1
6	PVT Christian Marquez	A 1-16
7	SSG Jeffery Onstad	B 1-16
8	SSG Kevin Tracy	A 1-16
9	1LT Andrew Williams	B 1-16
10	SGT Ian Williams	B 1-16
11	1LT Joshua Boyle	A 2-34
12	SSG Joseph Horton	A 2-34
13	SPC Colby Lazarov	A 2-34
14	SGT Jacob Leach	A 2-34
15	SGT John Leggett	A 2-34
16	PFC Morgan Martin	B 2-34
17	PFC Andrew Mericle	B 2-34
18	PFC Alex Miner	B 2-34
19	PFC John Moon	B 2-34
20	PFC Cadden Pylant	B 2-34
21	SSG Joshua Salyer	B 2-34
22	SPC Derrick Stoddard	B 2-34

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Spc. John Moon, company B, 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, prepares to fire the M136 AT-4; 84-mm unguided, portable breaching weapon at a simulated bunker Aug. 14 during the Expert Infantry Badge competition. Using the AT-4 was one of ten tasks within the patrol lane that he was tested on. There were three lanes which had 10 tasks each and a time limit of 20 minutes. Moon also has to complete an Army physical fitness test, day and night land navigation, and a 12-mile ruck-march in less than the three hour time limit."I wanted to compete for the EIB, because I wanted a challenge myself," Moon said.

Sgt. Kerry Lawson, 1st ABCT

Spc. Alex Miner (left), Company B, 2nd Battalion, 34th Armor Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, returns fire to a simulated enemy, while Sgt. John Buckle (right), Alpha team leader, 3rd squad, 1st platoon, Company B, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry, 1st Armor Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division grades him during the urban lane portion of the Expert Infantry Badge competition Aug. 14. There were three lanes which had 10 tasks each and a time limit of 20 minutes. Miner also has to complete an Army physical fitness test, day and night land navigation, and a 12-mile ruck-march in under three hours. The candidates also had to be an infantryman to be allowed to compete for the badge.



Sgt. Kerry Lawson, 1st ABCT

# **"IRON RANGERS" FORWARD OBSERVERS COMPLETE FIST CERTIFICATION**

Eighteen Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division finished four long weeks of training with a call for fire certification at observation point Charlie at Fort Riley on August 8th. The 18 newly certified fire support specialists are completely certified to offer fire support for their battalion. The certification began at the beginning of June when the Soldiers took written tests at their appropriate skill level. They then conducted simulated fire support events at the call for fire center and the training was completed with the culminating event at OP Charlie.



Staff Sgt. Donald Martin 1st ABCT

Second Lieutenant George Faulconbridge, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, looks through his LLDR to range a target in the open and sends the request for fire. Faulconbridge and 17 other Soldiers participated in the FIST certification at OP Charlie at Fort Riley on August 10. JULY/ AUGUST 2012



#### Staff Sgt. Donald Martin 1st ABCT

Lt. Col. Roger Crombie, Commander of 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, watches on as his observers watch for an explosion on an enemy target at OP Charlie at Fort Riley on August 10. The Soldiers took part in the FIST certification that makes them certified forward observers.



#### Staff Sgt. Donald Martin 1st ABCT

Pfc. Jordan Lunsford, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division sends a request to call for fire at OP Charlie at Fort Riley on August 10. Lunsford and 17 other Soldiers took part in the FIST certification over the past four weeks.

# "HAMILTON'S OWN" COMPLETE CREW LEVEL PALADIN GUNNERY CERTIFICATION



Staff Sgt. Donald Martin, 1st ABCT

Sgt. Miguel Juarez (left) and Spc. Keon Jones (Right), Delta battery, 1st Bn., 5th FA Regt., 1st HBCT, 1st Inf. Div. prepare to fire a 155 mm round from their Paladin artillery system on Aug 14th. The crew participated in the Paladin gunnery crew qualification for the battalion.

By Staff Sgt. Donald Martin

Rain or shine, the artillery teams from 1st Battalion, 5th Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division were going to make sure they had the chance to fire their Paladins on August 13th.

They got the rain, but it did not matter, because each crew in the battery certified on the crew level firing qualification.

The Paladin gunnery took place in conjunction with the fire support specialist qualification where forward observers from 1st HBCT qualify on their ability to call in fire support requests.

The process began with a call for fire from the forward observers

to the Fire Direction Center. The call was received and a fire mission was sent to the crew of whichever gun is to fire.

Each crew, consisting of three team members, had to receive the fire mission, prepare and load each round, and fire on targets downrange. The chief of the Paladin then relayed information to his team detailing what kind of mission they had and which munitions they needed to prepare.

The chief verified everything had been set up correctly and relayed the information back to the FDC, where they ran numbers one last time as a secondary check before firing. Once everything was in place and the crew was ready to fire, the chief issued the order to fire, and the round was sent flying approximately five miles away. The process continued for each round fired until the target was destroyed and they reached end of mission.

This is a lot of information to process in the matter of a few seconds, but for one of the youngest chiefs in the battalion, Sgt. Miguel Juarez, 25 of Delta Battery, 1st Bn., 5th FA Regt., it is a responsibility he is proud to have.

"We're the youngest crew out of all of the sections, and I'm one of the youngest Sergeants to be a chief. We are young, but we are doing everything right," Juarez said. "It's a great opportunity, that's what I'm most thankful for. I still have a lot to learn, but my guys teach me new things, and I teach



# WHERE:

## The Marianna Kistler Beach Museum of Art K-State Manhattan Campus

701 Beach Lane, Southeast corner of the K-State campus. (Turn north into the campus at the intersection of Anderson and 14th). There is a parking lot, just south of the building that is for Beach Museum guests (take an immediate LEFT when you turn onto campus from Anderson Avenue).

See map at: http://beach.k-state.edu/contact/

# WHEN:

# September 27, 2012 from 6:30-8:00pm

#### Military Spouse Night (childcare provided)

Join us for dessert, a tour of the "Goodnight Moon" exhibition, and a collage workshop. Museum staff will provide activities for your children while you enjoy fellowship with other military spouses and make night-sky themed cards to send to loved ones. Please feel free to bring photos or other bits and pieces to be added.

## October 25, 2012 from 6:30-8:00pm

#### Military Parent and Child Workshop

Get ready for Halloween by making night-themed decorations with your child. The program will include a quick tour of the "Goodnight Moon" exhibition and refreshments. This workshop is for Service Members and their child/children to enjoy some time together.

# November 8, 2012 from 6:30-8:00pm

#### Military Couples Date Night (childcare provided)

Enjoy a date night with a book/nightlight project designed to exchange with your spouse. Participants will create a small lighted acrylic box with a magnet that will contain a tiny "book" dedicated to their spouse. Refreshments will be provided and museum staff will provide activities for your children.

# SPACE IS LIMITED SO SIGN UP TODAY!

#### To <u>register</u> please go to: <u>surveys.ksu.edu/TS?offeringId=196786</u>

You may attend as many workshops as you like!

Your reservation will be confirmed by email prior to workshop date.

#### Program Partners:







Fort Riley Warrier Transition Battalian



Fiel Riky Parent To Porent Play Riky Quicking Children



Staff Sgt. Donald Martin, 1st ABCT

A Paladin artillery system from 1st Bn., 5th FA Regt., 1st ABCT, 1st Inf. Div. fires a round off towards the impact zone on Fort Riley on August 14th. They Paladin gunnery served as a crew certification event for the battalion.

them new things every day."

Juarez said that it has been an awesome experience getting his team back into the swing of things because the battalion has not fired artillery weapons since before its most recent deployment to Iraq. He also said that they did not have fire missions while they were deployed.

"We're a tight-knit group thanks to the deployment, and we have been doing good things out here. We have adapted to the problems of having equipment that hasn't been used in a while, and have overcome those problems.

Juarez, of Granbury TX, said that being a sergeant who has the responsibility of a staff sergeant makes him feel accomplished.

"It does feel pretty good to know that they're looking at me highly and giving me this chance."

The gunnery was just another step in the long process to get the entire battalion certified as a whole. The qualifications began with individual certifications on the assigned weapon for each Soldier. Then the unit conducted the crew certifications, and will continue certification events, first at the platoon level, then the battery, and finally as a battalion.

### Volunteer Opportunities

#### **USO Fort Riley seeks center volunteers**

USO Fort Riley is seeking daytime volunteers to help run the center. The center, which opened May 2010, is open year-round

Volunteers can search for opportunities and register through USO's volunteer web site –

#### <u>vww.usovolunteer.org</u>

The center is open Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.; and Saturday-Sunday, training holidays and holidays, Noon to 6 p.m.

For more information about becoming a volunteer at the center or with any USO Fort Riley program, contact Tinkey at 785-240-5328 or ctinkey@uso.org.

#### Apple Days- pie making, baking & handing out pre-sold pies

Who: HASFR

What: Pie-Making, Pie Baking, handing out of pre-made pies

When: (Making) Sept 17-22, three shifts available each day: 9-11am, 11 am to 1:30pm., and 6-9pm and (Baking) Sept 21, two shifts 7-10 am and 10 am to 1pm. Pre-sold pies will also be handed out on this day also, TBD

Where: USO DFAC, BLDG 7856 Drum Street on Custer Hill

POC: Sara Swanzy at smileitssara@gmail.com

#### **Apple Days Festival**

Who: MWR What: 4 volunteers for Expo Tent Set up / Tear down and clean up When: Saturday, September 22, 2012, Set up 0730-0930 / Tear down 1430-1630 Where: TBA POC for this event is: Caite Kendrick at Caitlin.a.kendrick@us.army.mil Cc: vicky.l.martin.civ@mail.mil



Staff Sgt. Donald Martin, 1st ABCT Physician's assistant, Captain Dylan Devries, Charlie Co., 101st Brigade Support Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division conducts a check up on Specialist Ramon Velazquez, Bravo Co. 101st BSB, 1st HBCT, 1st ID on July 23rd and the new brigade aid station. Devries is one of several physician's assistants who provide care at sick call for the Soldiers of 1st HBCT.

By Staff Sergeant Donald Martin

The Soldiers of the "Devil" Brigade now have a new place for all of their sick call needs. The 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team has opened a new aid station at building 7026 Siebert street, adjacent to the Craig Fitness Center. Soldiers can now attend sick call earlier without having to leave the Brigade area.

The aid station is run by the 101st Brigade Support Battalion and sees approximately 30 Soldiers every morning for sick call. Every Battalion within the brigade sends at least 3 medical Soldiers each morning to assist in the care of patients who come in during the morning hours.



#### Ringling Bros and Bernum & Belley Circus – Sprint Center

## Order your tickets at Fort Riley Leisure Travel Center Bldg 6918, Call 785-239-5614 for further info

#### Discounted Show days/times:

*Wednesday, September 12	7:00pm	*Opening Day Special - All tickets \$13.25 (excludes Circus Celebrity, VIP and Premium Seats)
Thursday, September 13	7:00pm	
Saturday, September 15	11:00am	
Sunday, September 15	5:00pm	

#### Ticket Prices:

Regular	Discount	Child Rate	
\$22.25	\$18.25	\$12.25 (2-12 years old)	Lower Level (sections 101-106, 117-122)
\$16.25	\$12.25		Upper Level (sections 205-210, 223-228)

#### Notes:

- Offers expires Tuesday, September 4 at 5:00pm (subject to availability/while supplies last)
- Ages 2 & up must have a ticket.

#### All Access Pre-Show:

o Starts one-hour price to show time on the Arena Floor.

e Open to all ticket-holders.

Arrive an hour before show time and step onto the arena floor to meet our performers and animals. It's your chance to learn skills from the stars of the show and discover how to be CircusFit<sup>®</sup>. This action packed event will get you Fully Charged and ready for the show to begin. Plus, watch one of our incredible Asian elephants paint a mesterpiece, and enter for a chance to win your very own peohyderm painting. The fun starts an hour before show time, and it's free with your ticket!



Staff Sgt. Donald Martin, 1st ABCT

Staff Sergeant Henry Favre (bottom), Charlie Co. Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, attempts to pull his partner's arm out to do an arm bar submission while training for the All Army Combatives Tournament on July 18th at a gym off post. Favre will be fighting in the 155 pound range during the upcoming tournament from July 25th through July 28th at Foot Hood, TX.

By Staff Sergeant Donald Martin

The 'Big Red One' is sending 12 of it's Soldiers to Fort Hood to take part in the 2012 All Army Combatives Tournament. All of the Soldiers selected had to earn their way onto the team by fighting in the combatives tournament during Victory Week at Fort Riley. The tournament will begin on July 25th through the 28th. All of the Soldiers were excited to be on the team, and hope to help the post place again for its fourth time in 6 years.

Staff Sergeant Henry Favre, Charlie Company, Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division has spent time doing combatives, once at Fort Hood where he placed third in the post competition, and again at Fort Riley, where he also placed third during Victory Week, earning him a spot on the team. Favre said that that training has helped him tremendously and is making him a more educated fighter.

"The training has been really awesome, and we've learned a lot" Favre said. "We train every morning and afternoon, and we go over variations of everything, from striking and submissions to cardio endurance."

Favre said that it was an honor to have been selected to represent Fort Riley for the tournament, and that he plans to do well in the tournament.

"It feels awesome to be on the team" he said. "I didn't think I was going to make it, but I did make it, and I'm going to do my best at the tournament, and hopefully place 1st.

Favre will be fighting at the 155 pound level.

The coach for the team, Staff Sergeant William Graham said he is excited for this year's team to compete.

"We have 5 returnees to the team from the All Army team last year, and the new ones that we have here...placed in at least the top two."

Graham is one of the post's combatives instructors and teaches Soldiers on a daily basis how to fight.

"We do a lot of hard training every single day" he said. Graham also said that he does a lot of training

#### By Sgt. Kerry Lawson

Two "Die Hard" Soldiers from the 1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, stood before a formation of their comrades to receive the Purple Heart on July 9 at Fort Riley.

Sgt. Aaron Becker and Sgt. Steven Prieur were awarded the Purple Heart for injuries sustained during their deployment to Afghanistan from 2009 to 2010. Prieur, Suwanee, Ga., said he and Becker both received back and neck injuries from the blast.

The two team leaders, assigned to the 2nd squad, 1st platoon, 41st Company, were conducting a route clearance mission. Becker and Prieur were in the same vehicle when they were struck by a roadside bomb.

"After the blast, our crew served weapon returned fire, allowing our platoon leader, the explosive ordnance disposal team, and our dismounted Soldiers to get out of the vehicle and also return fire," Becker said.

"Even though Becker hurt his lower back and neck and suffered a brain injury, this Soldier chose to stay with his unit and continue the mission," said Sgt. 1st Class Tedde Black, who was the platoon sergeant for the two while they were deployed.

In two deployments, Becker has encountered 13 blasts, Black said.

"He always picks himself back up and stays on course of the mission," he said.

Becker of Adel, Iowa, said it was his duty to stay with his Soldiers and take care of them although he was injured.

"We are a family," Becker said. "When we get blown up, we pick ourselves back up and soldier on."

# Two Engineers receive Purple Hearts



#### Sgt. Kerry Lawson, 1st ABCT

Brig. Gen. Donald MacWillie, Fort Riley's senior commander, pins the Purple Heart on Sgt. Steven Prieur after doing the same for Sgt. Aaron Becker as Lt. Col. Thomas Hairgrove, 1st Engineer Battalion commander, and Command Sgt. Maj. Miguel Rivera, Fort Riley's senior noncommissioned officer, assist July 9 at Fort Riley. Becker and Prieur are assigned to 2nd squad, 1st platoon, 41st Company, 1st Engineer Battalion, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, and received the award for injuries sustained during their unit's 2009 to 2010 deployment to Afghanistan.

# Pale Riders Participate in Cadet Troop Leader Training

By Staff Sgt. Donald Martin

The 'Pale Riders' have assisted in training tomorrow's leaders during the Cadet Troop Leader Training over the summer at Fort Riley.

The CTLT provides Cadets the opportunity to experience leadership in Army Table of Organization and equipment units over a three to four week period. Cadets serve in lieutenant-level leadership positions in active-duty units. Platoon Leader positions have a 3-4 week duration depending on the hosting unit and location.

One of the cadets that will leave Fort Riley with more experience is Cadet Christopher Muse from Virginia State University. He has been shadowing the Medical Services Platoon Leader, 1st Lt. Andrew Branch, Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 4th Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment.

Over the past four weeks, Branch has taught Muse the basic fundamentals to be a successful platoon leader in today's Army, and he is been very impressed with his character.

"His strong suit is that is he is never okay with just the status quo. He's always looking at ways that he can take things that he has learned here and apply them his senior year" Branch said. "That's always a tell-tale sign, I think, of someone that is driven. He doesn't just care about what he is getting out of this experience, but what he can do for the people that are beneath him and beside him. All of that is foreshadowing how he will be as an officer, and I think he'll be



Staff Sgt. Donald Martin, 1st ABCT

1st Lt. Andrew Branch watches over his Soldiers and Cadet Christopher Muse (Right) as they conduct training at the 4th Sqdn., 4th Cav. Regt.'s Aid station on August 2. Muse has been participating in the Cadet Troop Leader Training program over the last four weeks and has been shadowing Branch, who is the Medical Services Platoon Leader.

very successful."

Branch, who was a cadet who participated in the CTLT program in 2008, says that it is different being on the other side of the table.

"It wasn't always pleasant to give up my troops to him, but it was really promising to see him in action." Branch said. "I feel like if I had gone down at all while he was here, he would've been able to step up and do just fine."

Muse spent his time doing everything that Branch would do. He did Physical Training, supervis-

Cadet cont. page 24



2nd Lt.t Matthew Gocke

#### 2nd Lt.t Matthew Gocke

Twenty four Soldiers were served at First Brigade's Dining Facility without ever entering the "Devil's Den" on Monday, 23 July 2012. Thanks to its newest feature, Soldiers and DOD Civilians holders can order, pay and pickup breakfast for \$2.45 and Lunch for \$4.55 in under a minute. The set price will buy you two meat items a side and a drink without ever leaving your car.

The drive through opened this Monday and includes a crew of three Food Service Specialists. The crew and Devil's Den Staff are prepared for more customers at the drive through window. More customers utilizing the drive through during peak meal hours would reduce crowds and waiting time

# **"Devil's Den"**Our brigade's dining facility, drive-thru

inside the 'Devil's Den".

The Drive through is open Monday through Friday. Breakfast is served 0730 until 0900. Lunch is served from 1130 until 1300. Cash or meal card are accepted as method of payment.

On Monday the drive through served four customers for breakfast while on Wednesday morning the drive through served thirty people breakfast. "Business steadily increased throughout the week" said SPC Zachary Arrick, a Food Service Specialist who works the drive through. The goal of the drive through is to provide quality food for Soldiers in a hurry. "We want to have the food ready by the time the customer gets to the window" said Arrick, "we try to make it fast and efficient for the Soldiers."

Breakfast features freshly made English Muffin breakfast sandwiches, hash brown patties and French toast sticks. The lunch menu includes hamburgers, cheese burgers, hot dogs, chicken strips, waffle fries and onion rings. The "Devils Den" is ready to serve more customers at the drive through, a convenient meal option on Custer Hill if you are in a hurry.



2nd Lt.t Matthew Gocke



#### Combatives cont. from page 17

during off duty hours to keep himself sharp and to be able to bring more skills to the table for his competitors to learn.

Graham said that the team has the ability to do well this year, and that they could live up to the legacy that past Fort Riley teams have set before them.

"It brings a lot of pride, especially to Fort Riley" he said. "Fort Riley has done really well in the last 6 years."

He also says that there is an underlying message that the Soldiers should take from the combatives tournament.

"This is a way to show them that their training works and that the techniques that the Army Combatives Program has come up with actually work, regardless of size, weight, different body shapes, or gender." Graham said. "The Army Combatives Program makes it pretty easy for all of these Soldiers to learn." Graham said that one of the biggest benefits to combatives for every Soldier is the ability to train hard without causing serious injury.

"It's not like the old hand to hand combat... or the pugil sticks where you can get your face busted up or a rib broke that can cause you to not be able to continue mission and you can't continue training." He said. "This is the one way to be able to train at 100 percent, tap, and have a great time doing it, a good time learning, and being able to utilize it downrange."

The tournament will begin on July 25th and run through the 28th.



# New York Rangers vs. Colorado Avalanche Saturday, October 6, 2012 – Sprint Center 7:00pm

## Order your tickets at Fort Riley Leisure Travel Center Bldg 6918, Call 785-239-5614 for further info

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\*Offer expires Friday, September 28\* at 5:00pm (subject to availability/while supplies last) \*All ages require a ticket.

# COURTS-MARTIAL IN 1ST ABCT

Unit: A TRP, 4-4 CAV Charges: Article 85 Punishment: Forfeiture of \$492.00 pay for one month; and to be confined for 30 days

**Unit:** G FSC, 1-5 FA **Charges:** Article 107 **Punishment:** Reduction to the grade of E-3, forfeiture of \$1,078, suspended to be automatically remitted if not vacated by 26 OCT 12, confinement for 14 days

**Unit:** HHC, 101st BSB **Charges:** Article 121 **Punishment:** Reduction to E-1, hard labor & restriction 45 days, bad conduct discharge **Unit:** 41 En. Co., 1st En. Bn. **Charges:** Article 134 (x2) **Punishment:** Reduced to E1, to forfeit all pay and allowances, to be confined for 20 months, & to be discharged from the Service with a Bad Conduct Discharge

**Unit:** D Btry, 1-5 FA **Charges:** Article 86 (x3) **Punishment:** Reduction to private (E-1), confinement for 21 days

#### Cadet cont. page 19

ing his troops during training, sitting in staff meetings, and participating in all other unit functions.

Both agree that Cadets should embrace this training, and wish that more could participate in the program.

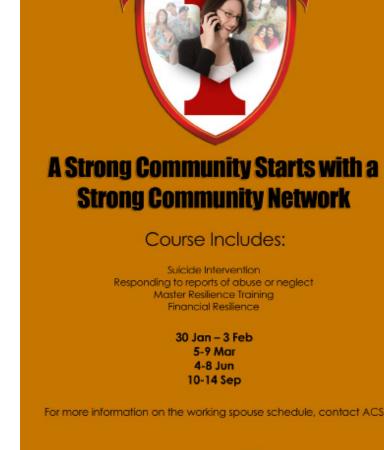
"As a Cadet, you spend 4 years be taught by other cadets or instructors that are Majors and you train to be a platoon leader, but you have no experience doing that from someone who is currently doing it." Branch said. "When they are here, they get the opportunity to enjoy the experience of what it's like to be with the Soldiers first hand."

"I believe more Cadets should get the opportunity to do CTLT because it is very informative of our relationship with the enlisted side." Muse said.

Muse says that everything he has learned here will help pay off in his future.

"I think I've grown and become accustomed to my leadership abilities. I take from all walks, whether it be from the First Sergeant, Platoon Sergeant, Platoon Leaders, or the Squad leaders... and being able to see that on a first hand basis and how it works has really helped me a lot."

Muse will return to Virginia State University for his senior year and hopes to branch Military Intelligence after he graduates.



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