



## Sergeants thrive on challenges



Story and photo by Mark Heeter

*Editor's note: This is the third in a series of stories and items devoted to noncommissioned officers throughout the Year of the NCO.*

The smell of gunpowder and smoke hang in the air, while the rapid exchange of gunfire begins to slow down. Inside the makeshift building in Camp Robertson Training Area, a small group of four Soldiers discuss their next move.

Sgt. Donnie Bass and Sgt. Charles Harris, both with Blackhorse Troop, 1<sup>st</sup> Squadron, 91<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Regiment (Airborne), plot their small-team strategy.

No supervision required.

“To get to be an NCO, you have to be willing not only to take the initiative, but also to take control of any situation,” Harris said, following a cordon-and-search mission during the first full day of Operation Saber Charge, a training exercise that prepares Soldiers to conduct a variety of missions.

“You should be able to accomplish that task without hesitating,” he said.

Harris and Bass, sergeants for three years and roughly

**NCO, see page 8**

Sgt. Donnie Bass searches mock captured insurgents while Sgt. Charles Harris provides over watch during Operation Saber Charge.

## Garrison set to roll out red carpet for retirees

Story and photo by Mark Heeter

The USAG Schweinfurt hosts its annual retiree appreciation day April 25, and organizers hope to repeat the success of the 2008 event.

“Last year’s was a great success,” with more than 25 percent of registered Schweinfurt retirees having attended, according to Mike Sleeper, acting chief of the USAG Schweinfurt Plans, Analysis, Integration Office.

“Many retirees said it was the best one that they have been to,” said Sleeper, who was the retiree services officer last year for the

garrison, a position since being filled by Sherry Renz.

“This is to honor and pay tribute to our retirees,” Renz said.

Agencies and organizations from throughout the garrison will be on hand in building 40 on Conn Barracks to assist retirees and their spouses, Renz said.

As in the past, buses will depart for the Schweinfurt health and dental clinics throughout the day to provide dental screenings, immunizations and Tricare consultations.

“It’s an opportunity to meet

**RETIREE, see page 6**



Spouses and retirees sign in at the 2008 USAG Schweinfurt retiree appreciation day. The 2009 event is scheduled for April 25.

**REMEMBER: CLOCKS SPRING FORWARD SUNDAY AT 2 A.M.**



# SPRECHEN SIE FUN?

## Events and activities in the local communities

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON LOCAL ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS VISIT:  
[www.schweinfurtserver.de/user/tourismus/Neu/stadtplan\\_EN\\_Endversion\\_2008.pdf](http://www.schweinfurtserver.de/user/tourismus/Neu/stadtplan_EN_Endversion_2008.pdf)

### Now through July 12:

**Exhibition of children books:** a walk through six centuries at Museum Otto Schäfer, Judithstrasse 16 in Schweinfurt.

Tue – Sat: 2 – 5 p.m.  
Sun: 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Altes Rathaus, Bad Kissingen, Marktplatz 12 in Bad Kissingen:

Mon. – Fri: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.  
Sun: 2 – 5 p.m.



### Tonight:

**Night of the musicals** - Stars of musical perform scenes of “Tarzan”, “Dirty Dancing”, “Mamma Mia”, “Wicked”, “The Lion King”, “Grease”, “We will rock you”, “Cats”, “Phantom of the Opera”, “Evita”, “Dance of the Vampires”, “Hair” and more at Conference Center, Maininsel Schweinfurt, 8 p.m. For tickets call 0931-55554 or

### Tonight:

**The Youth Music Corps** of Bad Kissingen performs at Max-Littmann-Saal in Bad Kissingen at 7:30 p.m.

### Tomorrow:



**The symphony orchestra** of Bamberg performs at the Schweinfurt theater, Rosssbrunnstrasse 2 at 7:30 p.m. For tickets call 09721-51475 or 510.

### Saturday:

**“Pictures are like words”** exhibition-drawings and illustrated books from the period 1800 – 1924 at the Museum Georg Schäfer, Brückenstrasse 20 in Schweinfurt, at 3 p.m.

Opening hours are:

Tue – Sun: 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Thur: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Entrance fees: adults 7 euro, students 2.50 euro, family ticket 12 euro

### Saturday:

**The Thalia Choir** performs a concert “We will rock you” with songs by Queen, Supertramp, Sting and many more at the concert hall Augustinum, Ludwigstrasse 16 in Schweinfurt, 7:30 p.m. Tickets are sold at bakery Kupfer, Niederwerner Strasse 12 ½ in Schweinfurt or at the concert.



### Sunday:

**Spring concert** at the Kulturhalle in Grafenrheinfeld at 6 p.m.

### Monday:

**Night of the dance** the best scenes of: “Riverdance”, “Africa”, “Swan Lake”, “Lord of the Dance”, “Saturday Night Fever”, “Grease”, “Stomp”, “Dirty Dancing”, and “Cirque Du Soleil” at the Congress Center in Würzburg at 8 p.m. For tickets call 0043 -1- 513 11 11.

### April 3 & 4:

**Automobile Leisure/Sport fair** at the Volksfestplatz in Schweinfurt, admission free, 10 a.m. – 6 p.m.



## Schweinfurt Dispatch



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The Schweinfurt Dispatch weekly newsletter is an unofficial publication of the U.S. Army Garrison Schweinfurt, IMCOM-Europe and the U.S. Army authorized under the provisions of AR 360-1.

The newsletter is published and distributed weekly in an electronic format. The newsletter can be viewed on the U.S. Army Schweinfurt web site at <http://www.schweinfurt.army.mil>.

This newsletter is a command information product that places emphasis on events and activities occurring throughout the Schweinfurt and Lower Franconia areas.

Information and photos included in this

newsletter are acquired from sources that highlight events, programs, and activities in Schweinfurt and Lower Franconia.

Dates, times, locations, and the events themselves might change or be cancelled without prior notice.

To be added to the Schweinfurt Dispatch distribution list, please e-mail: [mail.sft.pao@eur.army.mil](mailto:mail.sft.pao@eur.army.mil).

This address can also be used to submit community slides or information on upcoming events, or you can reach the USAG Schweinfurt public affairs office by calling 354-1400/6381 or (09721) 961400/966381.



# This week...

## Health clinic closed

The Schweinfurt health clinic will be closed on the USAREUR training holiday April 3. Leopoldina hospital's emergency room is open 24 hours and is well-staffed. You will be diagnosed, treated, admitted if need be, and directed to follow up with your primary care manager. Leopoldina's phone number is 09721-7200.

## DFAC cuts dinner

Effective Wednesday, the Ledward Dining Facility (DFAC) will only serve breakfast and lunch meals Monday through Friday and will be closed on the weekends. Hours of operation will remain the same during the week. For more information, call 354-7093.

## Finney Fitness hours

Due to the spring bazaar, the Finney Fitness Center has adjusted its hours of operation. Open hours for exercise are tomorrow 10 a.m. to 7 p.m., Saturday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Sunday noon to 5 p.m. Normal hours will resume Monday.

## Master's classes offered

Searching for a graduate program designed to develop and enhance your curriculum and instruction repertoire? University of Phoenix invites you to attend an hour information session about the on-site Master of Arts in Education/Curriculum and Instruction at the education center April 2 at 11:30 a.m. or at 5 p.m. This program is ideal for teachers who wish to meet No Child Left Behind requirements and take advantage of pay incentives. To reserve a seat, call 0951-2085 or email [leah.gransbery@phoenix.edu](mailto:leah.gransbery@phoenix.edu). Application fee waiver of \$45 is available to all attendees.

## Christian Passover meal

Protestant Women of the Chapel invite the women of the community to join in on a symbolic meal of Christ's last supper with his disciples at the Ledward Chapel fellowship hall Wednesday at 9 a.m. or April 2 at 5:30 p.m. During this Easter season, learn how the Jewish tradition of Passover was celebrated and how Christ fits into it all. Free watch care is available for both programs. For more information, email [pwoc.schweinfurt@googlemail.com](mailto:pwoc.schweinfurt@googlemail.com).

## Club Beyond changes middle school meeting

The day and time of middle school Club Beyond youth group has changed to Wednesdays at 3 to 4:15 p.m. The Club Beyond staff will provide rides each week from the middle school to the club room on Conn located in the Conn Chapel. Rides home after club are also available. All middle school students are invited to come check it out. For more information, call 0175-666-3339 or email [ecable@clubbeyond.org](mailto:ecable@clubbeyond.org).

## I.D. card office closed

The I.D. card office in Conn Building 40 will not be operational to serve customers Monday and Tuesday due to systems updates and modifications. For more information, call 09721-96-8834.

## Recycle center hours

On April 2, hours for all USAG Schweinfurt recycle centers will be from 12:30 to 4 p.m. due to a mandatory training event. Normal hours of operation for all recycle centers will resume the following day.

**Schweinfurt**



Tonight-	7 p.m.	Frost/Nixon (R)
Tomorrow-	7 p.m.	My Bloody Valentine (R)
Saturday-	4 p.m.	Delgo (PG)
	7 p.m.	Watchmen (R)
Sunday-	4 p.m.	Tale of Despereaux (G)
	7 p.m.	Watchmen (R)
Monday-	closed	
Tuesday-	closed	
Wednesday-	7 p.m.	Watchmen (R)

## Schweinfurt three-day weather forecast

A.M.	P.M.
<b>Friday</b>  Cloudy with rain Lows 5 C / 41 F	<b>Friday</b>  Cloudy with rain Highs 7 C / 45 F
<b>Saturday</b>  Cloudy with rain Lows 3 C / 37 F	<b>Saturday</b>  Cloudy with rain Highs 6 C / 43 F
<b>Sunday</b>  Mostly cloudy Lows 3 C / 37 F	<b>Sunday</b>  Mostly cloudy Highs 6 C / 43 F

Source: 21st Operational Weather Squadron



- 3 APR --Registration deadline for the teen babysitting class April 7-9 at Abrams Center. Class runs 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. and is open to teens 13 years and older. Call 354-6517.
- 3-5 APR --Fishing license class, Conn Outdoor Rec \$65. Call for details at 09721-96-8080.
- 4 APR --Easter breakfast at the elementary school starting at 7:30 a.m. \$4 for children, \$11 for adults.
- 7 APR --Bulk trash pick-up in Askren, Yorktown, gov't-leased housing. Put items out prior to 7 a.m.  
--Sponsorship training at the Education Center 9 a.m. to noon. Call ACS to register at 354-6933.
- 8 APR --Birth-n-Babies part I at ACS 9 a.m. to noon. To register call ACS at 09721-96-6933.
- 9 APR --Automotive support spouse awareness program at the Auto Skills Center on Conn Barracks. Class begins at 6 p.m. with the topic of tires. For information, call 353-8224.  
--Cilivian Resume 101 class in the bldg. 206 computer lab 1:30-4:30 p.m. Call 09721-96-6933.
- 10 APR --Spring break jam at the Teen Center 6-10 p.m. Cost is \$5. For information, call 09721-96-6732.
- 12 APR --Easter egg hunt at Ledward Andrus Garden, 2:15 p.m. Call 354-6186 for more details.
- 13-17 APR --Spring Community Enhancement. Information TBA.
- 14 APR --Character counts workshop for children at School Age Services 4-5 p.m. Call 09721-96-6974.  
--Family Readiness Group (FRG) crash course 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Call ACS at 09721-96-6933.
- 15 APR --"Gourmet Night" at Finney Fitness Center, 6 p.m. For more information, call 09721-96-8476.
- 16 APR --Volunteer recognition ceremony, Kessler Bowling Center, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Call 354-6933.
- 20-24 APR --Newcomers awareness program, SNAPS, child care available. Call ACS at 09721-96-6933.
- 21 APR --Bulk trash pick-up in Askren, Yorktown, gov't-leased housing. Put items out prior to 7 a.m.  
--Teen advisory group at Ledward Library beginning at 6 p.m. For information, call 354-1740.
- 22 APR --New PWOC small group Bible study begins, Ledward Chapel, 9 a.m. Call 0170-277-8980.  
--Ledward Community Bank closes for cleaning. Normal hours will resume the following day.  
--Ping Pong tournament at Finney Fitness Center, 7 p.m. For information, call 353-8476.
- 23 APR --Child Development Center (CDC) spaghetti lunch, 11:30 a.m. For information, call 354-6822.
- 24 APR --Family movie day at School Age Services (SAS). For details, call 09721-96-6974.
- 25 APR --Kinderfest for Month of the Military Child, Askren Manor 1 p.m.
- 27 APR --ADD & ADHD support group, Army Community Service, 10 a.m.-12 p.m. Call 354-6933.
- 30 APR --"Lunch Bunch" 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Meet at ACS. For more information, call 09721-96-6933.  
--Job search strategies class at ACS 2-4 p.m. For more information, call 09721-96-6933.  
--Library book club meets at the Ledward Library at 5:15 p.m. "In Defense of Food" by by Michael Pollan will be discussed. To join, call 09721-96-1740.  
--Child Development Center (CDC) parade through Askren Manor, 3:45 p.m. Call 354-6822.
- 2 MAY --Annual middle school spring flea market, rent a table at [diane.schmidt@eu.dodea.edu](mailto:diane.schmidt@eu.dodea.edu).
- 6 MAY --Daybreak Quartet performs at the Schweinfurt Elementary School 6 p.m. Everyone welcome.
- 10 MAY --Mother's Day brunch at Conn Community Club, 10:30 a.m. For reservations, call 354-6186.

**Community 6 week outlook calendar**



# Balancing a 'long Army tradition' with possible anxiety

By Mark Heeter

Soldiers from the 172<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Brigade (Separate) were in the heaviest stages of deploying out of Schweinfurt Dec. 1, 2008, when Lt. Col. Anthony Haager put pen to paper and resurrected the USAG Schweinfurt policy on wear of the Class A uniform on installations during the brigade's deployment.



Lt. Col. David Hurley, commander of the 15<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion, pins a good conduct medal on Sgt. Jeremy Hicks during recent payday activities. People are reminded that, if they see Soldiers wearing the Class A uniform, the Schweinfurt community has not necessarily suffered a casualty. (Photo by Sgt. Cecilia Walters)

"While it is not the Garrison's intent to preclude the wear of the Class A uniform by Soldiers remaining in the Schweinfurt Military Community during the deployment, Family members tend to associate the Class A uniform with the duties of the Casualty Notification Officer," according to USAG Schweinfurt Policy memorandum 1-7.

"Family members who see the Soldiers on-post wearing the Class A uniform may be subjected to undue anxiety due to this association," according to the policy letter.

While the policy was created at the request of a previous brigade commander, Haager was requested to re-issue the memorandum during the deployment of the 1<sup>st</sup> Squadron, 91<sup>st</sup> Cavalry Regiment (Airborne) and again during this current deployment.

Similar policies about Class A wear exist at garrisons throughout Europe, according to Mike Sleeper, who was the garrison casualty affairs officer during the last deployment for the brigade, which was the hardest hit in United States Army, Europe, and included a battalion with more Soldiers killed in action than any other in the Army since Vietnam.

Meanwhile, some Schweinfurt-based units have returned a long Army tradition of payday activities, which includes Soldiers donning their Class A uniforms for a unit formation and uniform inspection.

"This is just a Soldier taking part in a great Army tradition and doing Army training," said Command Sgt. Maj. Ernest Lee, USAG Schweinfurt, referring to the legacy of payday activities.

As the end-of-the-month payday approaches, Soldiers and family members are reminded that, while the Army has installed a meticulous casualty notification process to ensure dignity, some Soldiers in Class A uniform might be taking part in a "great Army tradition."

# Summer Hire program provides employment, educates youth

By Emily Athens

Calling all 14- to 22-year-olds in the Schweinfurt community. The Civilian Personnel Advisory Center (CPAC) in conjunction with Army Community Service (ACS) offers a Summer Hire program for those young adults wanting to work in the summer. The program, beginning June 22 and ending July 31, is a great way to build resumes and provide work experience for youth, explained Alexandra Williams, human resources specialist at CPAC.

"It's federal employment. It's an actual work experience for them ... they come to work in the morning and follow procedures, so it's a great experience for them," Williams said.

The program offers administrative, labor and childcare positions providing

meaningful work experience. In addition to the valuable learning experience, youth will earn paychecks and understand the culture of a real-world job position.

"We've always been able to accommodate everybody. When students apply, they'll get assigned to a job and receive a letter, and get matched with a supervisor," Williams explained.

At the conclusion of the program, youth will enjoy a stress buster activities day so they can complete the program in high spirits.

Furthermore, ACS provides opportunities for the youth to improve their job-seeking skills for future employment endeavors.

According to Lew Lewis, employment readiness program manager at ACS, a resume workshop will be conducted at Bamberg High School to polish resumes while also

providing professional development training.

"The Summer Hire program is a great opportunity for our community because it affords us a chance to invest in our youth by providing them with an employment opportunity. Out of that, they can learn to develop work ethics, time management, money management, and overall adult responsibilities," Lewis said.

Youth can begin applying Monday by going to the summer link at <http://cpolrhp.belvoir.army.mil/eur> and selecting the 'employment' link and then 'summer hire program 2009.'

For more information, call 09721-96-1430 or 09721-96-6933.



Williams



# Start smart develops skills, prepares children for sports

Story and photo by Sandra Wilson

Throw a ball out on the field and some kids know exactly what to do with it. But in most cases, kids could use the extra help learning how to play sports to begin developing those basic motor skills. That is exactly the purpose of the youth sports and fitness start smart developmental activities held at both School Age Services (SAS) and the Child Development Center (CDC) each week.

“Even if children are not actively involved in our sports programs ... it’s still available to them,” said Adio Toliver, youth sports program associate, explaining that because the start smart program takes place at SAS and the CDC, the kids aren’t required to sign up for the team sport season.

But those who choose to use the program as an introduction to team sports for their little ones will find numerous benefits.

“It’s giving them great preparation ... rather than just throwing them into the sport,” said Robert Davis, child and youth program assistant.

Soccer, flag football, baseball, and a medley or obstacle course of sorts are available for children ages 3 to 7 throughout the year. Many times, the particular sport skill sets are taught to the kids just before the actual season starts for that sport.

“It’s like a normal progression. That way they will be ready for when the actual season starts,” Davis said.

“Usually for the soccer season we would have trouble keeping them on the field— they’d be running off picking flowers ...

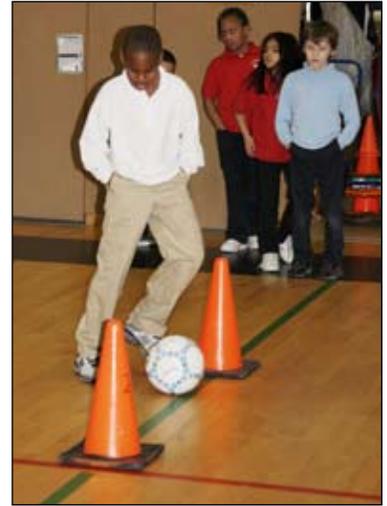
so now they are a little bit more focused and they know exactly what to do when they get out there,” Davis said of the kids who participated in start smart beforehand.

At SAS and the CDC, the interested kids learn ball-handling skills: how to dribble, pass, and more. The sports are introduced with modified equipment that still functions the same but is much softer.

“The kids’ biggest fear is getting hit by the ball ... that takes the fear away,” said Daniel Jones, director of youth sports and fitness, explaining how they use a koosh rubber band ball in place of a baseball initially.

The program is ongoing and kids can join at any time with or without plans to participate on a sports team in the future.

“It’s not meant to build superstars,” Jones emphasized. “It’s really just a great developmental activity for all kids, he said.



Steven Fontenette dribbles the ball as (from left) Alexandria Richardson, Cynthia Gonzalez, and Alexander Lewis wait their turn at SAS.

# Green Team, Scouts and SAS tackle garbage head-on



Joel Helston holds a garbage bag for Devonte Holmes, while Michelle Furkin, left, and Dominique Everett clean up in the background.

Story and photo by Mark Heeter

Paper, plastic, purple ribbon.

These and many more nuggets of garbage were swirling around a windy Askren Manor housing area Monday, until Wilbur’s Green Team led the charge to clean the area.

The team, Schweinfurt Elementary School students, was joined by the Boy and Girl Scouts and children from School Age Services in the cleanup effort.

“I’m doing this because I want to save my environment and the planet,” said second-grader Dominique Everett. “It’s fun to go into groups and pick up trash that people might throw away.”

Fun is exactly how teacher Joel Helston, Wilbur’s Green Team leader, wants the children to view saving the planet.

“You don’t have to be required to pick up trash. You can do it because you want to make a difference,” Helston said, before leaning over to scoop up a plastic wrapper.

“This is a good bunch of kids. I really

enjoy it,” said Helston, who spent time in Germany before becoming a teacher here.

“So I know how green they are here. And I want the kids to get involved. We can teach this,” he said.

After about an hour, broken into teams throughout the housing area, the children and adult helpers returned with several bags of trash – somewhat recycled, of course.

“I wanted to join (the cleanup effort) because I knew this would be a good thing,” said second-grader Devonte Holmes.

Once the scouting groups got on board, the SAS children were not far behind, demonstrating the cooperation that did not go unnoticed by USAG Schweinfurt Command Sgt. Maj. Ernest Lee.

“It’s our community,” Lee said to the nearly 50 children, before presenting each group a certificate of appreciation.

And he held out hope for the children’s parents.

“They’re going to be very proud of you, and they’re going to want to go do the same thing,” Lee said.



# Tea party acknowledges women’s history month

Story and photo by Emily Athens

Men and women of the community joined together at the Abrams Entertainment Center March 19 for a tea party to honor Women’s History Month. The annual March celebration is a time to highlight the success of women through the years and acknowledge the challenges they faced to get to where they are now.

“This is a great opportunity to learn about the things we take for granted and to highlight the significant events of history,” said Travis Reynolds, outreach program coordinator for Army Community Service (ACS).

The tea party, themed ‘women taking the lead to save our planet’, provided information on influential women throughout history. It was an effort to bring awareness and acknowledgement of women’s history month to the community, explained Reynolds.

Lt. Col. Anthony Haager welcomed guests with a brief speech recognizing the importance of women’s heritage noting that “slowly, but surely, we’re finally realizing that we’re all equal.”

Guests browsed books, sipped beverages and enjoyed cake while various women from agencies within the Schweinfurt community shared their personal accounts and stories.

“I wanted to dedicate my time to give hope to other women going into a male dominated field,” said Department of Public Works engineer Angelika Elliott of her decision to speak at the event.



Schweinfurt community members enjoy snacks and beverages while mingling before the guests speakers gave their testimonies about women’s history month at the tea party March 19.

## Job Fair helps community find jobs, improve skills



Travis Reynolds (right), outreach program coordinator for Army Community Service, helps a community member polish his resume during the Information Job Fair March 20 at Kessler Fitness Center. Besides a resume critique, community members could participate in mock interviews while browsing tables of different agencies for possible employment. (Photo by Emily Athens)

**RETIREE** with the garrison personnel and, in some instances, have an opportunity to see the medical facility and dental, which is sometimes difficult for them to do,” she said.

“We will have many different agencies here at the same time,” said Renz, adding that United States-based representatives of the Defense Finance and Accounting Service will be here as well.

“The whole purpose of a retiree appreciation day concept is more service to more retirees at more locations,” Sleeper said.

The event is open to retirees everywhere, including the Fulda and Aschaffenburg areas, which are now under the umbrella of the Schweinfurt retiree association.

“They just came into our area, so we’re trying to reign them in,” Renz said. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m., and the retiree appreciation day runs from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Refreshments will be served, and a barbecue is scheduled.

“Schweinfurt’s a very close community, and whenever we get a chance to show support for the retirees, we have a way of coming together and providing them the best services we can,” Sleeper said.



# Warrior ethos: Soldiers combat for level-1 certificate

By 1st Lt. Lonnie Colbert  
172nd Infantry Brigade

FORWARD OPERATING BASE KALSU, Iraq – “Position before submission ... position before submission ... position before submission,” were the words emphasized repeatedly by Staff Sgt. Gregory Ramirez, a 172nd Infantry Brigade operations noncommissioned officer and instructor for the Blackhawk Combative Course.

Ramirez instructed the first ever Blackhawk Combative Course at FOB Kalsu, March 9-13. The Blackhawk Combative Course is a 40-hour block of instruction designed to teach Soldiers basic fighting techniques, which allows them to close distance, gain dominant body position and finish the fight in hand-to-hand combat.



U.S. Army noncommissioned officers assigned to the 172nd Infantry Brigade welcomed 22 graduates into the ranks of leadership at the first-ever Blackhawk Warrior Leader Course on Forward Operating Base Kalsu, Iraq, March 6. The week-long program focused on performance-based skills ranging from Iraqi security professionalization to fundamental lifesaving skills. (Photo by Pfc. Bethany Little)

To the unfamiliar eye, combatives may appear as a few Soldiers wrestling. Combatives, also known as rolling, is a form of hand-to-hand combat that forces students to live the warrior ethos, a code of ethics instilled in every Soldier to never accept defeat, and never quit. Students must look at themselves and their potential opponent and apply a lathered combination of physical strength, mental focus and courage to outlast their opponent.

“It forces you to build self-confidence,” explained William Johnson, a scout for the 172nd Brigade Reconnaissance Troop, “You never know what to expect or who your next opponent may be,” he said.

Each student must learn and demonstrate 19 different techniques used to be successful. “You have to look for openings, play defense, think ahead, conserve energy and pace yourself at all times,” described Sgt. Brandon Waugh, an infantry team leader of 1st Battalion, 2nd Infantry Regiment, Bravo Company.

On the fourth day of training, Command Sergeant Maj. James Redmore, 10th Mountain Division, visited the Soldiers attending the training.

“It is important to witness some of the training that is going on with the enlisted force to sample their level of proficiency in their war fighting skills,” said Redmore.

When asked to describe his thoughts on training, Pfc. Ronald Rios, a military policeman attached to the 172nd Brigade Reconnaissance Troop, said, “It was extremely difficult physically and mentally, a lot more cardio work than what I expected and if you are not doing everything just right, you will tire quickly.”

19 Soldiers successfully completed the 40-hours of instruction to receive their combatives certification for the first of four levels accomplished. Each level of certification allows Soldiers to build on the knowledge and skills learned to teach and train others.

“Any time you have the opportunity to help raise your level of proficiency in your war fighting skills you have to take advantage of that,” said Redmore.

**NCO** nine months, respectively, are both combat-tested sergeants – perhaps the most heavily populated rank in the noncommissioned officer corps.

“Deployment opens your eyes a lot. You get there, at first, it’s a big change ... it’s everything,” Bass said. “It literally changes you. I grew older. It literally matures you a lot.”

“For young Soldiers, it not only gets your blood pumping; it also gets you to think more on your feet,” said Harris, who has deployed four times in his career.

Whether on a deployment or conducting missions in a local training area, sergeants must be role models for their Soldiers, according to Bass.

“It’s just training your Soldiers. I mean

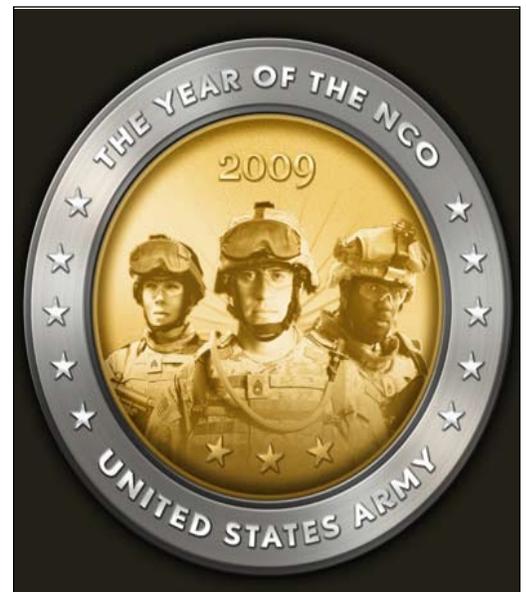
they look up to you, when it all comes down to it, and you’ve got to be there to lead them and guide them in the right direction,” he said.

“When you’re a Soldier, you’re basically a mirror image of your NCO. That’s the way I was brought up,” Bass said. “Brought up” would be accurate for Bass, whose father is a retired sergeant major and brother is about to become a staff sergeant.

“I enjoy when Soldiers look up to me, and it makes me feel a sense of responsibility. It makes me feel like I can teach them,” Bass said.

He and Harris agreed that they are up to the challenges of leading Soldiers.

“I’m willing to take on any challenge thrown at me,” Harris said.





# Prepare Strong: Ready Army hosts kids competition

To celebrate Month of the Military Child, Ready Army is launching the *Prepared Kids* Competition! *Prepared Kids* recognizes the strength, spirit and creativity of Army children and teens, and invites them to share their ideas for preparing for emergencies.

This year's Ready Army *Prepared Kids* Competition theme is: Prepare Strong!

The competition is organized into three age groups; up to age 7, ages 8 to 12, and ages 13 to 18. You can enter as an individual or as a group. Entries may be any product, idea or item related to preparing for any natural or manmade hazard.

All children up to age 18, with a connection to the Army, submitting original unpublished work, are eligible.

Each submission must be clearly labeled with a title, all creators' names, age, and contact information. An explanation of each creator's relationship with the Army must be submitted with the entry.

Submissions must be original and unpublished works. Submissions will be judged equally on the basis of merit according to three age groups. All creative mediums are accepted if the theme relates to emergency preparedness.

Suggested focus areas include getting an emergency supply kit, making a family emergency plan, being informed about the range of hazards or getting involved in community activities to build

local preparedness. Examples of entries include the following:

- song lyrics or a poem
- short video, YouTube posting or even music video clip
- poster, T-shirt or bookmark design
- personal story of experiencing an emergency; an essay or creative novella
- 30-second public service announcement for radio or television
- preparedness game
- drawing, sculpture, music
- computer software or science project

Finalists in each category will be chosen and posted to the Ready Army community Web site at [www.ready.army.mil](http://www.ready.army.mil) for a one-week internet voting period which will be open to the public. Winners will be announced on [www.ready.army.mil](http://www.ready.army.mil) during National Preparedness Month in Sept. The winner will be notified by mail.

Ready Army has the right to edit and publish entries to the Ready Army *Prepared Kids* Competition as considered fit both in print and on the Web. The winners, and his or her parent or legal guardian, agree to the use of the winner's name, photos, and entries in any form by Ready Army, without additional compensation.

The winner's parent or legal guardian is required to sign and return, within seven days of receipt, an Affidavit of Eligibility, Publicity, Liability, Release.

**Kids**  
You too can  
**PREPARE STRONG!**

Enter the  
**Prepared Kids**  
Competition

Celebrating  
**Month of the Military Child.**  
Ready Army invites you to join the  
*Prepared Kids* competition and inspire  
Army Families all over the world to  
get ready for emergencies. *Prepare strong!*

**READY ARMY**  
GET A KIT • MAKE A PLAN • BE INFORMED

[www.ready.army.mil](http://www.ready.army.mil)

### Important dates and information

- Competition starts: April 1
- Entry deadline: midnight, August 12
- Finalists announced: August 19
- Internet vote starts: August 19
- Internet vote ends: August 26
- Ready Army *Prepared Kids* competition winners announced September 1 for grand prize!

Submit electronic files to [www.ready.army.mil](http://www.ready.army.mil).  
Submissions by mail are to be sent to Ready Army at 1550 Crystal Drive, Suite 601, Arlington, Va.,g 22202 and received no later than close of business August 12.

Winners will be featured on [www.ready.army.mil](http://www.ready.army.mil) throughout September and included in the 2010 Ready Army Campaign.

*Ready Army is the Army's proactive campaign to encourage individual, Family and community emergency preparedness. Ready Army expands upon the national Ready campaign from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the Ad Council to provide targeted information to support the unique needs of our Army community stationed around the world. Through outreach and education, Ready Army aims to create a culture of preparedness that will save lives and strengthen the nation.*



ARMED FORCES ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

# earthworms

April 11 | 7 p.m.  
Finney Fitness Center



**A FRESH TAKE ON HIP-HOP YOU'LL DIG**

High-energy rhyme with just enough 90's-style sampling for a totally fresh take on hip-hop!





**USAQ**  
**Schweinfurt**  
**FISHING LICENSE CLASS**

**April 3 - 5**  
**Cost: \$65**

To sign up, contact  
**Outdoor Recreation**  
**Conn Barracks, Bldg. 50**

**DSN: 353-8080**  
**CIV: 09721-96-8080**



# Teen Babysitting Class

April 7-9, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.,  
Abrams Center



Class covers CPR and First Aid. Open to teens age 13 and up with parent approval. Teens will be referred to Teen Babysitter List after completing class.

**Register by April 3.**



For information, call 09721-96-6517 or DSN 354-6517.



**2009 SCSC**  
**SPRING BAZAAR**  
**MARCH 27 - 29**

Friday 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.  
Saturday 11 a.m. - 7 p.m.  
Sunday 12 p.m. - 4 p.m.

Open to U.S. ID cardholders. Tax free shopping. Credit cards welcome. All sales final. Strollers welcome. No pets allowed.

FINNEY FITNESS CENTER | BLDG. 64, CONN BARRACKS  
**CIV 09721-96-8234, DSN 353-8234**

Sponsored by the Schweinfurt Community & Spouses' Club