

DAKOTA PACK

MAGAZINE OF THE SOUTH DAKOTA ARMY AND AIR NATIONAL GUARD • WINTER 2010

» HOMECOMING

211th Eng. Co. returns safely from Afghanistan

» ACHIEVEMENT

114th Fighter Wing named the best

» HUMANITARIAN

730th ASMC treat more than 5,000 Haitians





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DAKOTA PACK

Magazine of the South Dakota Army and Air National Guard



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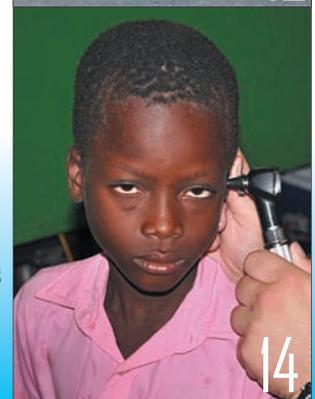
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On the cover

Sgt. Ben Petrik, of Epiphany, holds on to his daughter, Josie, 18 months, at the deactivation ceremony for the 211th Engineer Company, Sept. 17, at the Dakota State University Fieldhouse in Madison. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Theanne Tangen)

Senior leadership looks to the future

Story by Col. Jeffery Marlette
South Dakota Army National Guard

RAPID CITY - Senior leadership from the South Dakota Army National Guard met at Camp Rapid in late August to discuss the strategic issues facing the organization, and responsibilities and decisions that today's leaders must address to position the South Dakota Army National Guard for the future.

Several topics received attention including: what types of units best position the SDARNG to maintain ready, relevant units for both state and federal missions, where those units should be located today and in the future, and what types of facilities will be needed to properly house those units.

South Dakota National Guard Assistant Adjutant General Army, Brig. Gen. Timothy Reisch, told senior leaders that changes to the South Dakota Army National Guard's structure could add to the number and types of missions they could support.

"We know that through changes in structure over the next few years, some of our units are going to change and in most cases get somewhat smaller," Reisch said. "We feel strongly about our ability to maintain our present level of strength, and so we see this as an opportunity to maybe go after some additional types of units that might further support our state and federal missions."

Reisch also discussed changes that could take place several years from now.

"All indications are that we will not continue to receive the support and funding to maintain as many unit armories as we have in the past," he said. "We anticipate a move toward regional readiness centers. The regional readiness centers will be much larger than our current sites and will be capable of housing multiple units.

"We will begin to see some of these types of movements over the next few years. The new Joint Forces Headquarters building on Camp Rapid will be complete in the spring of 2011 and the new regional readiness center in Watertown is projected to be complete in 2013," Reisch added. "Because of the way the planning and funding cycle works with regard to new facilities, a total movement to regional readiness centers is a process that will take time to achieve."

"In the meantime, the South Dakota Army National Guard will continue to station Soldiers in the locations that best support the command and control and readiness of our organization," said Reisch.

Reisch explained that strategy is really about taking what we know about our organization, gathering as much information as we can about the foreseeable future and then developing plans to best position our organization for the future.

"This is not the same National Guard many of us grew up in," Reisch told senior leadership. "Every single day since September 11, 2001, the South Dakota Army National Guard has had Soldiers deployed somewhere in the world or in the United States supporting the War on Terrorism. That is simply the reality of the operational environment we find ourselves in today and we believe will continue to be the standard for the foreseeable future."

Reisch emphasized the South Dakota Army National Guard is not a static organization and as leaders, they must continually be working to position the Guard for success in the future."

While the specifics of when and where these changes will be made are still being determined, Reisch feels that preparing now will set the stage for future success.

"Our goal is to be prepared for the challenges and opportunities that will come down the road," said Reisch. "I feel very good about the work that was accomplished here during this conference and I truly believe the South Dakota Army National Guard is better prepared because of it."



Brig. Gen. Timothy Reisch

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Carpenter: Today's Army stronger, more seamless

Story by Sgt. Darron Salzer
National Guard Bureau



Photo by Sgt. Darron Salzer

ARLINGTON, Va., - Because they have fought together, today's Army is much stronger than the Army that existed before Operation Iraqi Freedom, the acting director of the Army National Guard said in a recent interview.

"Where we have ended up is with an Army that is a lot more seamless than what it used to be," said Army Maj. Gen. Raymond Carpenter. "And ... an Army that is closer together with its three components than it has ever been, and I think that's a great step forward."

For the Guard, the legacy of being deployed alongside its active duty counterparts is huge, and one that was not met without the sacrifice of the thousands of men and women who deployed to Iraq.

"It starts with the sacrifice of our Army Guardsmen, and it moves on to something that we now call this operational reserve concept that we've got out there," said Carpenter. "And that is a dramatic change from where we were at as a strategic reserve."

Since Sept. 11, 2001, the Army Guard has contributed greatly to both homeland and overseas missions.

Less than 50,000 U.S. troops remain in Iraq for Operation New Dawn, including about 5,000 from the Army Guard.

"At this point, we are providing primarily security forces and sustainment forces for the operations in Iraq," Carpenter said.

He added that as the surge of troops in Iraq had neared its 50,000 limit, some Guard units deployed below their troop end strength to maintain the cap.

"We'll see this type of thing again as we transition to a complete departure from Iraq in December 2011," Carpenter said. "When we went into OIF, we had some growing pains, and as we exit OIF, we'll experience them again as we downsize our presence."

"We just need to be cognizant of the welfare and needs of our Soldiers as we go through this period."

Carpenter also said that having a stable operation in Iraq, one with reduced requirements, "is good news, not only for our Guardsmen, but also for the country at large and for Iraq."

However, "we still have a mission to do, and there is still work to be done," he said.

ENLISTED SPOTLIGHT

NAME: Michael Burgeson

UNIT: HHC 153 EN BN, Huron

AGE: 42

FULL-TIME POSITION:

Police Officer,
Yankton Police
Department

Command Sgt. Maj. Michael Burgeson
and CSM for the
153rd Engineer Battalion.



HOMETOWN: Onida

FAMILY: Wife, Stephanie; children, Brody, 7, and Hudson, 3

PETS: Buster (yellow lab)

WHEN I'M NOT AT WORK YOU'LL FIND ME: Playing with our kids, doing Guard stuff, working on my "Honey Do" list or simply trying to pick up after the kids.

THE ONE THING I TREASURE THE MOST: My Family!

HEROES: John Wayne and my father

NOBODY KNOWS THIS ABOUT ME BUT: I don't get to sleep in my own bed! Since I work mostly night shift for the police department, by the time I get home my wife and kids have occupied every inch of my bed, so I end up sleeping some other place in the house. I am pretty sure that my kids will be in high school and still want to sleep in my bed.

THE ONE PERSON (ALIVE OR NOT) I'D MOST LIKE TO HAVE OVER FOR DINNER & WHY: Teddy Roosevelt. I am fascinated by his ability to inspire the Rough Riders to accomplish the mission. He had a unique way of taking care of Soldiers and holding them responsible for their actions.

IF HE/SHE ISN'T AVAILABLE: Gen. George Patton. Best known for his leadership during World War II.

IF I WIN THE LOTTERY TOMORROW I'M: Retire from the police department and the National Guard. I would buy a large hunting reserve in northern Montana, put in a large lake for scuba diving, build a ski slope and spend the rest of my time having fun with my family.

THE BEST ADVICE I EVER GOT: Take a couple steps back and slow down so you can enjoy your family. By the time you realize that you missed your kids growing up, it will be too late and you will never get that time back.

THE BEST ADVICE I HAVE TO GIVE: Do not jump to conclusions; there are always two sides to every story.



114th Fighter Wing named the best

Story by Lt. Col. Reid Christopherson
114th Fighter Wing

Airmen of the South Dakota Air National Guard's 114th Fighter Wing have once again distinguished themselves as the most outstanding Air National Guard fighter unit in the nation. They were selected as the 2010 recipient of the National Guard Bureau's Winston P. Wilson Trophy.

The trophy is awarded annually to the most outstanding Air National Guard unit equipped with jet fighter or reconnaissance aircraft. The presentation was made by Lt. Gen. Harry M. Wyatt III, the director of the Air National Guard, at the annual conference of the National Guard Association of the United States in Austin, Texas.

"The selection for this prestigious award provides strong affirmation by U.S. Air Force leaders of their confidence in the contributions of the South Dakota Air National Guard to our nation's defense," said Col. Russ Walz, 114th FW commander.

"Recognitions such as the Winston P. Wilson Trophy provide significant validation of our unit's readiness to continually step into new missions."



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Caycee Cook

Capt. Eric Cleveringa prepares to launch an F-16 Fighting Falcon for a mission July 31, 2010, from Joint Base Balad, Iraq. Captain Cleveringa is assigned to the South Dakota Air National Guard's 114th Fighter Wing in Sioux Falls.

The 114th FW recently was selected as one of the few Air National Guard units in the nation to convert from the Block 30 F-16 Fighting Falcon, which it has flown since 1992, to the newer and more advanced Block 40 F-16.

Over the past two decades the unit has deployed eight times to allied bases in Southwest Asia to fly combat missions.

The trophy was named for Maj. Gen. Winston P. Wilson, former chief of the National Guard Bureau from 1963 to 1971. General Wilson is considered to be the architect of the United States' modern Ready Reserve, ensuring readiness of National Guard units to swiftly join regular forces on overseas missions.

This is the fourth time the trophy has been awarded to the South Dakota Air National Guard. It was previously received in 1981, 1983 and 2007.

SD Army National Guard units receive notification for possible deployments

451st Engineer Detachment (Firefighting Team)

RAPID CITY - The 451st Engineer Detachment (Firefighting Team) received official notification for deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

The seven-person unit will mobilize in May of 2011. The Sturgis based 451st provides firefighting service and support in a theatre of operations including fire protection of aviation and major facilities.

The unit is scheduled to report to Fort McCoy, Wis., in mid-May of 2011 for mobilization training prior to deployment overseas.

200th Engineer Company (Multi-Role Bridging)

RAPID CITY - The 200th Engineer Company received official notification for deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

More than 180 Soldiers will mobilize in May of 2011. The 200th is a multi-role bridging company that provides personnel and equipment to transport, assemble, disassemble, retrieve and maintain all standard U.S. Army bridging systems. They will be performing security missions along with bridging operations.

The 200th is located in three communities along the Missouri River; the headquarters element located in Pierre, Detachment 1 in Chamberlain and Detachment 2 in Mobridge.

The unit is scheduled to report to Fort McCoy, Wis., mid-May of 2011 for mobilization training prior to deployment overseas.

842nd Engineer Company (Horizontal)

RAPID CITY - The 842nd Engineer Company (Horizontal), received an official alert notification for a possible deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

More than 160 Soldiers will mobilize around August of 2011. The 842nd is located in three Black Hills communities with their headquarters located in Spearfish and two detachments in Sturgis and Belle Fourche.

The 842nd specializes in horizontal construction such as building roads and developing airfields. They are equipped with bulldozers, scrapers, cranes, loaders and 20-ton dump trucks.

They are scheduled to report to Fort Bliss, Texas, around August of 2011 for mobilization training prior to deployment overseas.

139th Brigade Support Battalion

RAPID CITY - The 139th Brigade Support Battalion (BSB) received official notification for deployment in support of Operation New Dawn in Iraq.

Approximately 64 Soldiers will mobilize in June of 2011. The 139th BSB provides logistical and maintenance support to a maneuver enhancement brigade and attached units.

The 139th is based out of Brookings and has a Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment that provide command and control, administrative, training and logistical support for five companies with four detachments in the South Dakota Army National Guard.

The unit is scheduled to report to Fort Hood, Texas, in early June of 2011 for mobilization training prior to deployment overseas.

Det. 3, Co. A, 641st Aviation Regiment (currently activated)

RAPID CITY - Det. 3, Co. A, 641st Aviation Regiment, Rapid City, held their activation ceremony Wednesday, Oct. 20, at the Army Aviation Support Facility as they deploy in support of Operation New Dawn.

The small team of pilots and crew chiefs, made up of nine Soldiers will mobilize to Iraq where they will conduct a year-long mission of moving cargo and personnel by air transport.

The unit will report to Fort Benning, Ga., for mobilization training prior to deployment overseas.

OFFICER SPOTLIGHT

NAME: Joe Eining

UNIT: 153rd EN BN

AGE: 43

FULL-TIME POSITION:
Caseworker -
Minnehaha County
Juvenile Detention
Center



Lt. Col. Joe Eining

HOMETOWN: Dell Rapids

FAMILY: Wife, Maria; children, Jacob, II, Joshua, IO, and Jordan, B.

PETS: Maggie (Yellow Lab)

WHEN I'M NOT AT WORK YOU'LL FIND ME: The kids' events keep Maria and I on the move.

THE ONE THING I TREASURE THE MOST: I love spending time with my wife and kids. We try to have a family night at least once a week. No friends over, no bringing work home - just us watching a movie, playing board/card games, biking, or an outdoor activity.

HEROES: My parents. Born in the 1920s and products of the '30s, they've been married more than 60 years and raised ten children. Mom stayed home with the kids while Dad worked. They never made more than \$20,000 in a year and though we seldom got everything we wanted, we always had everything we needed.

NOBODY KNOWS THIS ABOUT ME BUT: I didn't tell my folks I joined the military until the day before I left for Basic Training.

THE ONE PERSON (ALIVE OR NOT) I'D MOST LIKE TO HAVE OVER FOR DINNER & WHY: Any of the founding fathers of this country. I'd like to ask them if they feel we're doing it right - if we're meeting the intent and vision of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution that they wrote and signed.

IF HE/SHE ISN'T AVAILABLE: Abraham Lincoln. Kept the country together, ended slavery, arguably the smartest, strongest president in our country's history.

IF I WIN THE LOTTERY TOMORROW I'LL: Do anything I want!

THE BEST ADVICE I EVER GOT: Don't sweat the small stuff...it's all small stuff. Also, my father told me once, "Unless you see it with your own eyes, believe very little of what you read or hear in the media."

THE BEST ADVICE I HAVE TO GIVE: Smile - it makes people wonder what you're up to.

Logisticians keep supply lines open

Story by Sgt. Rebecca Linder
196th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade

CAMP PHOENIX, Afghanistan – Providing life-essential supplies for nearly 9,000 U.S. and coalition servicemembers operating in the capital of Kabul, Afghanistan, is one tall order, but it's a mission Soldiers from Task Force Rushmore's Directorate of Logistics strive to fulfill on a day-to-day basis.

As members of the 196th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, South Dakota Army National Guard, these logisticians are keeping the supply lines open for these troops – ordering a variety of products needed to sustain and accomplish their mission.

“The DOL is actively involved in supporting nine bases and nearly 9,000 troops throughout the Kabul Base Cluster,” said Maj. Jason Kettwig, 196th director of logistics. “We conduct a variety of missions with the goal of sustaining the KBC, not only for the U.S. troops, but our coalition partners and Afghan civilians who work in and operate around our bases.”

“We support the whole KBC with any type of logistic support, from Class One supplies all the way up to Class Nine,” said Master Sgt. Richard Albertson, 196th logistics noncommissioned officer in charge. “We get the supplies and equipment they need to accomplish their mission.”

These classes of supply range from the life-essential commodities of food and water to the mission-essential equipment of personal protective gear and vehicle repair parts.

“A part of the DOL is the maintenance section, which helps manage the flow of parts in and out of the KBC and tracks how fast [disabled] tactical vehicles can get back up and mission capable in order to improve the operational readiness rate inside the KBC,” said Kettwig.

The DOL also ensures personnel throughout the KBC have comfort items to improve their daily lives. Bed mattresses, construction materials, computers and television monitors help to make living and work areas feel more like home.

“We provide commodity purchases that improve the life quality of Soldiers,” said Kettwig, of Milbank, S.D. “We try to improve all the different services and nice-to-have things that Soldiers deserve and require.”

Another mission the DOL has been delivering on is providing equipment and construction materials needed for building projects throughout the KBC. The renovation of older structures and the construction of new buildings provide servicemembers with a safer living and working environment.

“We are working with other members of the 196th in the Directorate of Public Works to determine what we need to order for building materials, such as electrical and plumbing supplies, for new living and work areas,” said Kettwig. “Make life better for the troops – our part of that is critical – helping improve the life support for the Soldiers, Airmen, Marines and Sailors.”

With 13 Soldiers in the DOL, other operations needing attention are the accountability of government property and management of dining facilities. The proper tracking and management of these services



Photo by Sgt. Rebecca Linder

Master Sgt. Richard Albertson, (left) Directorate of Logistics noncommissioned officer in charge, and Spc. Angela Anderson, DOL transportation clerk, unload electrical supplies from a local Afghan contractor Oct. 2, at Camp Phoenix in Kabul, Afghanistan.



Photo by Sgt. Rebecca Linder

Maj. Jason Kettwig, director of the Directorate of Logistics, talks to a local Afghan about ordering more electrical equipment in Kabul, Afghanistan.

ensures efficiencies are applied to them and gives peace of mind for servicemembers.

“By improving the efficiencies of how things are ordered, how they arrive and how things are accounted for, troops can live at ease knowing the essentials will be there when needed,” said Kettwig.

To keep these supply essentials on hand, the section works closely with local Afghan contractors to purchase them and boost the local economy.

“The idea is to increase the Afghan economy by buying Afghan supplies first,” said Albertson, of Brandon, S.D. “The monetary and measuring systems here are different, and sometimes a challenge, but we are constantly trying to increase the productivity of how we get our supplies.”

Providing support and necessities for the KBC comes naturally to these Midwestern Soldiers, and with their kind hearts, are willing to get almost anything that is needed to help U.S. and coalition forces accomplish their mission.

“At times this job can be challenging, but there are so many rewarding things about my job; one being to help any servicemember and make them happy and stay happy,” said Albertson.

Deployed Soldier overcomes medical challenges

Story and Photo by Sgt. Matthew Nedved
196th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade

CAMP PHOENIX, Afghanistan – For people with medical conditions wanting to serve in the U.S. military, their afflictions can sometimes pose challenges, and in many cases, limit their ability to perform their duties



Spc. John Hanson

or join the armed forces altogether. However, for Spc. John Hanson, these limitations were not an option. After 11 years of fighting to join the military, this Soldier never gave up hope and is now serving his country in Afghanistan.

Hanson, 33, faces the everyday challenges of cerebral palsy – a condition that can affect brain and nervous system functions such as movement, learning, hearing, seeing and thinking. As a member of the Sioux Falls - based 196th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, South Dakota Army National Guard, Hanson's condition doesn't restrict his ability to perform and support the mission of his unit in Afghanistan.

"When people saw me, they saw something that was not normal and they figured that I was exactly that," said Hanson, of Sioux Falls. "Instead of finding out what I could do, they assumed I couldn't do anything – until I proved them wrong."

As a member of the 196th, Hanson serves as the office manager for the Directorate of Resource Management on Camp Phoenix, which provides construction, commodity and service contract management and funding oversight for 11 military bases in the nation's capital of Kabul.

"I am so impressed by John's determination and dedication to serve," said Brig. Gen. Theodore Johnson, 196th commander. "He plays an important role in the resource management directorate and it's an honor having him on the 196th team."

However, Hanson's journey to being able to serve in Afghanistan was no easy task. During his first attempt to join the National Guard in 1995, he was denied eligibility by a physician at the Military Entrance Processing Station (MEPS).

Hanson is affected by a specific type of cerebral palsy known as spastic diplegia; a form

that affects the lower extremities with little to no effect on the upper body. Hanson knew it would be difficult to join the military with the physical limitations his condition caused to his legs and feet; however, he was determined to join, and continue the long line of military service within his family.

"I wanted to feel a part of something that is not only a great organization, but also part of my family," said Hanson. "My father was in the National Guard, my uncle was in the Air Force, one grandfather was a lieutenant in the Army Air Corps, and another served as a Marine. Call it not only a sense of duty and honor, but a way to live up to the example set by the people who surrounded me."

After being denied by the MEPS doctor, Hanson persisted, and worked with several civilian doctors to improve his mobility and become medically eligible – enduring surgeries and physical therapy – never giving up on his dream.

"After every time I went to MEPS, and I was stopped, I worked at that one roadblock until I found a way to push over it and pass it," said Hanson. "It took lots of support from family, friends and co-workers. They all knew it was a dream of mine to wear the uniform of the U.S. Army and I was going to do whatever it takes."

Hanson's persistence to serve was also influenced by veterans in his home community who have served the nation before him.

"The [American] Legion hall in my small home town of Badger, S.D., is named after my great-uncle that was lost at sea after the Dec. 7, 1941 attacks. Along with that, I grew up surrounded by the World War II veterans in town; the stories and the camaraderie was another big driving force to be a part of the military," said Hanson.

Finally in 2006, Hanson was able to join the ranks of the South Dakota Army National Guard by working with his two civilian physicians and the MEPS doctor. Hanson's doctors were able to prove he was medically fit for duty, and eventually, the initial medical disqualification was overturned.

"I can not speculate how [my doctors] came to their reasoning. I think the fact that they have known me and have been a witness of the progress and achievements I have made my entire life might have had something to do with it," said Hanson.

"Let's just say the feeling I had when I graduated from South Dakota State University

after four years was nothing compared to the feeling the day I went to MEPS and took my oath of enlistment," added Hanson.

Today, along with serving in the National Guard, Hanson also works back home in Sioux Falls as a firefighter, paramedic and a rescue SCUBA diver. Hanson's efforts to work in public service jobs are a testament to his dedication and commitment to help others, and he continues to excel and perform at a level equivalent to any able-bodied person.

"Spc. Hanson is always upbeat and ready to do whatever needs to be done," said Sgt. 1st Class Paul Carroll, member of the 196th. "When working with others he knows how to keep things fun and yet still get our job done to the highest standard."

"I think the only issues I really had (with people), was them judging a book by its cover," said Hanson. "I'm just glad to show them that no matter what, if you put your mind to it and work at it, any dream can come true."

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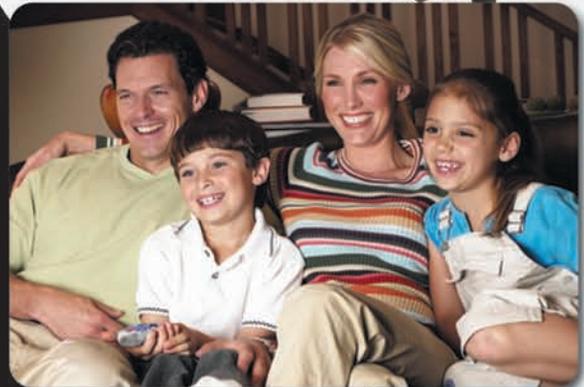
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Soldiers partner for orphanage benefit

Story and Photos by Sgt. Rebecca Linder
196th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade

Servicemembers stationed at Camp Phoenix and Afghan National Army Soldiers delivered toys, clothes, shoes and blankets to the children of the Maihan Orphanage during a humanitarian aid drop Aug. 31.

CAMP PHOENIX, Afghanistan – “Healing hearts and minds” of the Afghan people is the motto of the Operation Outreach-Afghanistan (OOA) program achieved once again by U.S. Soldiers here, in partnership with Afghan National Army Soldiers, Aug. 31 as they participated in a humanitarian aid drop to a local orphanage in Kabul.

Six containers filled with toys, blankets, shoes, clothes and school supplies were delivered to the Afghan children who live at the Maihan Orphanage.

“I was so surprised to see them here delivering the gifts,” said Angela Nibler, Maihan Orphanage volunteer and Idaho native. “We saw the Army vehicles and I was scared for a second, but once we realized what was going on we were so excited and grateful. The children are so happy.”

About 245 boys and girls who live at five different buildings throughout the orphanage are without a home due to loss of parents from the war, insufficient living conditions or simply because their parents cannot support them.

“Being part of Operation Outreach and going on the mission to the orphanage was the most fulfilling event of my tour

so far,” said Capt. Michael Webb, company commander of Headquarters and Headquarters Company 196th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, South Dakota Army National Guard. “Working with Soldiers from other units, the ANA, and the Afghan locals in coordinating this event and coming together as a team for a common goal is really what it’s all about.”

Putting smiles on the children’s faces is something that OOA continues to do. Soldiers here volunteer their time throughout the week to ensure the program runs smoothly and the Afghan citizens receive the donations that

American families send

over here.

“That’s a big part of following the counterinsurgency strategy; assisting

the Afghan population and helping to take care of their needs, especially the children,” said Webb, of Tea, S.D. “The children’s faces said it all and is something I will never forget.”



Capt. Michael Webb, company commander of the 196th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, South Dakota Army National Guard gives a toy to a young Afghan girl.

SOUTH DAKOTA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

NCO & SOLDIER OF THE YEAR 2011

Story by DC Chad Carlson
Public Affairs Office

The South Dakota Army National Guard named Sgt. Tanner Haines, of Plankinton, Noncommissioned Officer of the Year and Spc. Rob Buechler, of Menno, Soldier of the Year, Sunday, Oct. 3, at the Duke Corning Armory on Camp Rapid. Each award is the top honor for both the noncommissioned officer and enlisted corps within the state's Army National Guard.

South Dakota Army National Guard State Command Sgt. Maj. Larry Zimmerman said the NCO and Soldier of the Year competition not only builds esprit de corps, but is a great learning tool.

"It helps our Soldiers learn and become proficient on Soldier skills," Zimmerman said. "Hundreds of Soldiers from across the state compete. Everyone in the competition is using a 300-page study guide, honing their warrior tasks and battle drills. It's good for the whole state, enlisted and NCOs."

Haines and Buechler have made it through company, battalion, MACOM and state-level competitions and will next represent the South Dakota Army National Guard at the Region 6 Best Warrior Competition, held at Devils Lake, N.D., in June, where they will compete against Soldiers selected from seven other states.

They will again be tested both physically and mentally with events they've seen before such as an interview board, a land navigation course, an obstacle course, a weapons qualification test and a physical fitness test. They'll also see new events added at the regional level of the competition such as an Army Combatives competition and a "mystery event."

NCO OF THE YEAR - SGT. TANNER HAINES

Haines, an assistant ammunition chief with Alpha Battery, 1/147th Field Artillery, Aberdeen, joined the National Guard in January of 2004 to serve his country. He has done just that, deploying twice since joining. Haines first deployed with Charlie Battery, 1/147th Field Artillery, in 2005-2006 and more recently to Kuwait with Alpha Battery, 1/147th Field Artillery, in 2009-2010. On the civilian side, he lives in Sioux Falls with his wife, Kayla, and works for Interior Technicians as a carpenter, remodeling homes destroyed by fire and water.

Haines attributes his success in the competitions to mentorship he's received throughout his career in the National Guard.

"I have had many great leaders in the past that I have learned many things from," Haines said. "My unit has also worked very hard at helping me with everything possible; they have set me up for success."

Zimmerman said Haines is a very studied Soldier who leads from the front.

"His leadership skills really came out in the competition," Zimmerman said.

"NCO of the year is an incredible honor and it means a lot to me," Haines said. "I am proud of what I have done and will continue to study,



train and work hard to try and represent South Dakota to the best of my abilities in the region competition.”

While Haines will work hard for the regional competition, he said his long-term goals with the South Dakota National Guard are to make it a full-time career.

“I love the National Guard and it has done great things for me,” Haines said. “There is no better job than being an NCO in the Guard.”

SOLDIER OF THE YEAR - SPC. ROB BUECHLER

Buechler, a fire direction control specialist with Charlie Battery, 1/147th Field Artillery, Yankton, joined the National Guard two-and-a-half years ago to serve his country, earn extra money and provide college money for his daughter.

He recently returned from a year-long deployment to Kuwait with Charlie Battery, 1/147th Field Artillery.

Buechler lives in Yankton with his wife, Amanda Schieffer, and his daughter, Morgan, 9. He works as a police officer for the City of Yankton.

“Being named Charlie Battery Soldier of the Year was an honor because it told me the NCOs and Officers in the Battery felt I was worthy of the title,” said Buechler. “From there, my motivation was to do well at the battalion, brigade and state levels as a representative of Charlie Battery.”

Buechler said he continues to receive support in his Soldier of the Year journey from a variety of people.

“I’ve received a lot of support from other Soldiers in the Battery, as well as guidance from my Platoon Sergeant, Readiness NCO and Training NCO,” said Buechler. “Without such guidance, I wouldn’t have made it this far. I also want to thank my wife for helping me study and manage the stress with preparing for the boards.”

To Buechler being a Soldier is much more than doing well in these competitions.

“To me, being a Soldier isn’t just about deploying, shooting weapons or drilling once a month. It’s a lifestyle that has shaped who I am even when not on duty. I apply what I’ve learned in the Army to almost every aspect of my civilian life. The part of the Army that has had the greatest impact on me is the Warrior Ethos. I find myself thinking about it in almost everything I do – whether it’s at work, the gym or preparing for the Soldier of the Year boards.”

On the civilian side Buechler said he plans to continue to work as a Police Officer in Yankton. In the National Guard, he said he hopes to move up the enlisted ranks and become a leader.

“I’ve also entertained the notion of going to OCS (Officer Candidate School), Buechler said. “All in all, I hope to have success in both my careers so I can retire someday and enjoy time with family and friends.”



MISSION COMPLETE

211th returns from Afghanistan



Photo by Staff Sgt. Theanne Tangen

Story by Spc. Charlie Jacobson
129th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

153rd Engineer Battalion Commander Lt. Col. Joseph Eining, greets Soldiers of the 211th Engineer Company (Sapper) as they take their steps onto U.S. soil at Volk Field Airport, Wis., Sept. 13, 2010.

Music played and children sang as they carefully held onto the strings of their red, white, and blue balloons. Flags were flown proudly by veterans of wars past, honoring the Soldiers and their service to our nation. Tears of joy were shared as loved one's hearts were once again reunited.

After conducting a yearlong combat mission in Afghanistan, these South Dakota servicemembers returned home to anxious family and friends who have long been awaiting their safe return.

On Sept. 17th, 2010, the streets and gymnasiums of Madison, S.D., were bursting with excitement as proud supporters and loved ones gathered during welcome home ceremonies for members of the South Dakota Army National Guard's 211th Engineer Company.

Indeed it was a hero's welcome these Soldiers arrived home to, and the success of their mission, and their sacrifices in Afghanistan over the past year, deserved nothing less.

In the dense, mountainous region of southeast Afghanistan, members of the unit were tasked with detecting and clearing explosive roadside hazards planted by enemy forces along main and secondary supply routes, said 1st Lt. Chris Long, platoon leader for 2nd Platoon.

"The guys really stepped up early on, training on all the equipment we do not have the capability or availability to train on state-side," he said. "We were familiar with all the equipment, but not proficient by any means."

Long explained that the training and professionalism the Soldiers displayed during the early phases of their deployment was critical to their mission's success.

"The reason we did so well was our Soldier's work ethic and commitment to training on the equipment when we arrived in Afghanistan," he said.

This commitment to excellence proved to carry on throughout the unit's entire deployment.

Over the course of 428 combat missions, the Soldiers of the 211th located and disposed of 135 Improvised Explosive Devices, cleared more than 18,000 miles of roadways, had an 82 percent success rate in finding IEDs, and were awarded 18 purple hearts for those who were wounded, Capt. Heath Abraham, the unit's commander, reported.

To accomplish their mission, the Soldiers relied heavily on the detection capabilities of a counter-IED vehicle known as the Husky. The Husky is a large wheeled vehicle that can be equipped with a ground penetrating radar system to locate lethal roadside hazards, Long said.

Once a threat was located, and combat patrols secured the area, they employed their 'Blow In Place' teams to disarm or detonate the explosive device, he added.

IEDs were not the only threat faced by the 211th's Soldiers. Enemy forces carefully used their knowledge of the mountainous terrain to ambush 211th patrol units during their route-clearing missions, said 1st Lt. Mike Bierle, platoon leader for 3rd Platoon.



Family and friends cheer for the Soldiers of the 211th Engineer Company (Sapper) as they return home from a yearlong deployment in Afghanistan Sept. 17, 2010, at the Dakota State Field House in Madison.

Bierle said that the terrain features in the area often forced the patrol units to become bottlenecked between mountain and cliff, leaving them no escape route from enemy forces.

“When we did make contact, and when we were ambushed, we couldn’t really see the enemy because they were hidden in the terrain,” he said. “There are built-up fighting positions everywhere over there, and they always had escape routes on the other side of the mountain.”

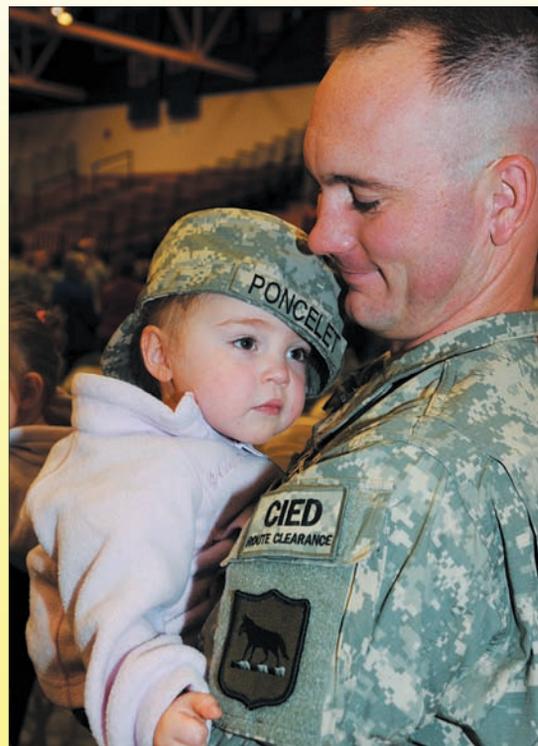
Despite the numerous missions, roadside bombs and enemy ambushes, Bierle said the Soldiers of the 211th were able to accomplish their most important mission - bringing all 113 of their Soldiers home safely.

“Our biggest goal was to bring everybody home, regardless of how many IEDs we found or how many times we were blown up,” he said. “Everyone worked as hard as they could and stayed focused for the entire year, and we ended up having one of the most successful route-clearing missions over there.”

The unit’s successes and sacrifices in Afghanistan did not go unnoticed.

South Dakota Governor Mike Rounds, who joined in on the welcome home festivities, publicly admired the Soldiers of the 211th Engineer Co., highlighting their commitment to both their mission and country.

The governor closed with a remark that reached out to every veteran, family member, and friend who crowded the gymnasium to honor the service of the 211th. “This is the land of the free, because it is also the home of the brave; job well done.”



Sgt. Mark Poncelet of Madison, holds onto his daughter, Shay, 2, at the deactivation ceremony for the 211th Engineer Company (Sapper) Sept. 17, at the Dakota State Field House in Madison. The 211th spent the last year conducting route-clearance patrols of improvised explosive devices (IEDs) along movement and supply routes in Afghanistan.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Theanne Tangen

Soldiers treat more than 5,000 Haitians

Story by Spc. Jared Eslickcoats

730th Area Support Medical Company

For 27 members of the South Dakota National Guard's 730th Area Support Medical Company, Vermillion, this year's annual training offered more than just real world training and a chance to visit a relatively unknown country. This year's training gave Soldiers a new perspective and an experience they will never forget.

The 730th recently returned from Haiti, which, with a population of just over 9 million people, is currently the poorest country in the Western hemisphere. With over two-thirds of its population unemployed and a per capita income of only \$1,300 per year, the country is in desperate need of aid. Most of its population is without basic sanitation or healthcare, and since 2008 the country has been decimated by multiple tropical storms and a catastrophic earthquake which further diminished the already tenuous infrastructure and agricultural sectors of the country.

To help this country recover, much aid has been provided, with many basic items sent to ease the burdens of recovery, but quality medical care has long been lacking. The 730th was sent to provide some of that care.

Operation "Kout Mein" or New Horizon was designed to help rebuild, repair and take care of the people of Haiti. The 730th was there to provide basic medical care to as many people as possible during their two-week rotation.

The services the Soldiers provided consisted of preventative medicine classes, de-worming medicine application, dental services and clinic-like medical care. Preventative medicine classes, consisting of sexual education, basic hygiene and basic dental hygiene procedures, were a prerequisite for all patients before seeing someone for their chief complaint. During this time the patients were given toothpaste, tooth brushes and prophylactics, with the instruction on the proper usage of these items.

Adults and children alike were also given de-worming solution.

For the medics operating at the clinic it was amazing to see so many people who had waited for so many hours to receive medical care. "They started lining up at the clinic the night before," said Staff Sgt. Penny Dicks. "When we got there in the morning, there was already a lineup of hundreds of people."

The Haitians received medical care based on their stated complaints; everything from stomach aches, rashes, headaches and sore throats to life-threatening tumors and motorcycle accidents were dealt with throughout the course of the mission.

"We saw quite a few different conditions and complaints while we were there," said Sgt. First Class Danny Doty. "It was a great opportunity to help the Haitians while learning about a wide range of different medical problems."



First Lt. Terry Henrie, a physician's assistant with the South Dakota Army National Guard's 730th Area Support Medical Company, entertains a couple of rambunctious kids while their mother was seen by a doctor Aug. 10, 2010, near the town of Gonaives at an established Haitian clinic.

Photo by Spc. Jared Eslickcoats

Every patient that was seen was also given vitamins for themselves and their family members in addition to whatever medicines they received. Altogether, during the mission more than 5,000 patients, averaging nearly 500 a day, were provided medical and dental care.

The mission was conducted just outside of Gonaives, an area roughly 45 minutes by Chinook helicopter, north of Port-Au-Prince, the country's capital. The 730th operated out of an established Haitian clinic, taking up residence in half of the building while the other half continued to function as a clinic. The medics, doctors and dental personnel overcame the language barrier. Haitians speak Creole, which required the unit to work through translators.

Many of the medical personnel were given the opportunity to do things they have heard about or seen pictures of in a textbook.

"We treated more than 5,000 patients in nine days," said Dicks. "Many of the people had never seen medical treatment before."

The ability to physically perform their roles in an environment like this was seen as a great learning experience by all who took part in this mission.

"Just traveling to and from the FOB to our jobsite helped to put into perspective what those people are up against on a regular basis,"



Photo by Spc. Jared Eslickcoats

Sgt. Dallas Heckens, a medic with the South Dakota Army National Guard's 730th Area Support Medical Company, performs an ear exam on a child complaining of an earache Aug 10, 2010, near the town of Gonaives, on a humanitarian mission that doubled as the unit's yearly annual training.

said Spc. Hien Nguyen. "They are going to need help for a long time, but being able to go down there, do what we did, and help those that we could, is one of the most wonderful feelings of making a difference I've ever experienced."

The Soldiers of the 730th who helped make a difference during this mission will remember it for a very long time indeed, and they are ready to go back to help the people of Haiti, armed with the skills and experience to make a difference in their lives whenever called upon.

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Photo by Staff Sgt. Theanne Tangen

GRADUATION

Future leaders pinned

Story by Staff Sgt. Theanne Tangen
Public Affairs Office

STURGIS, S.D. – Seventeen South Dakota Army National Guardsmen and one Wyoming Army National Guard Soldier graduated from Officer Candidate School (OCS) Class 54, and pinned on the rank of second lieutenant during a commissioning ceremony Saturday, Aug. 28, at the Sturgis Community Center.

The candidates recently completed the OCS program requirements for the 196th Regiment, Regional Training Institute at Fort Meade.

“As the gold bars are pinned onto these young leaders’ shoulders this morning a great deal of responsibility is placed on them as well,” said South Dakota National Guard Assistant Adjutant General Army, Brig. Gen. Timothy Reisch. “The responsibilities of a new lieutenant in 2010 far surpass the responsibilities that were placed on me back in 1980. Each of you will be assured to lead a platoon or maybe even a company to a combat tour... a huge responsibility.”

OCS is the first step in the Army’s basic officer development program which trains Soldiers to receive a commission as an Army second lieutenant. Officer Candidates train many long hours on basic military tasks including physical training, drill and ceremony and troop leading procedures. During the training, the candidates are placed in high-stress, high-intensity environments and challenged to make leadership decisions.

The 196th RTI’s OCS is a three-phase program with ‘traditional’ and ‘fast track’ courses. Eleven of the candidates completed the

Seventeen South Dakota and one Wyoming Army National Guard Soldiers were commissioned as second lieutenants at the Officer Candidate School, Class 54, commissioning ceremony at the Sturgis Community Center on Aug. 28, 2010. (Back left to right) Bjarne J. Aanning, William R. DeSchepper, Billy R. Boyd, Brandon D. Jarman, Shane R. Skinner, Andrew J. Delgado, Craig D. Evenson, Ronnie L. Mitchell, Jason A. Hunter. (Front left to right) Tricia M. Eining, Jodi L. Peterson, Douglas N. Johnson, Casey R. Thompson, Adam P. Herrmann, Benjamin J. Sevigny, Kyleen C. Garrigan, Jason V. Kimura, Lacy D. Jones.

traditional 14-month course while the others completed the eight-week fast track course.

“Your completion of Officer Candidate School is testimony to the fact that each of you has what it takes to succeed,” said Reisch. “Work ethic, intelligence, personal service these are the characteristics that will carry you through.”

Brandon D. Jarman, a newly-commissioned second lieutenant, recalls the moment during OCS when he realized the importance of being an officer in the United States military.

It was a peaceful sunny morning, during a flag ceremony at the Fort Meade Cemetery where Medal of Honor recipients are buried. A fellow classmate played taps as we stood at attention in the cemetery listening to it echo through the hills, said Jarman.

“It was at that point that the weight of leadership fell on me and I understood what it means,” said Jarman. “The decisions that I make on the battlefield someday will impact the lives of the troops underneath me. I need to be on the top of my game so that the decisions I make will bring everyone home and accomplish the mission.”

Jarman and the 17 newly commissioned lieutenants will be assigned to units to meet the challenges and rewards of being a leader outside of a training environment where their decisions will greatly impact the future of the National Guard.



Courtesy photo

CW5 Jerry Duba, State Command Chief Warrant Officer (left), and CW2 Brian Maschino, WOCS Platoon Trainer (right), pin Jaime Badillo, a warrant officer graduate at the Anniston Meeting Center, Anniston, Ala., Sept. 25, 2010.

Four Warrant Officers pinned

Story by DC Chad Carlson
Public Affairs Office

ANNISTON, Ala. - Warrant Officer Candidates from the 196th Regiment, Regional Training Institute, Fort Meade, S.D., graduated from Warrant Officer Candidate School on Saturday, Sept. 25, at the Anniston Meeting Center in Anniston, Ala.

Jaime Badillo, George Blankenbiller, Levi Bollinger and Brent Simon

are the South Dakota Army National Guard's newly pinned Warrant Officers.

Warrant Officer Candidate School is divided into three phases and "is designed to develop and evaluate leadership traits, mental and physical abilities, and moral values in Soldiers wishing to become Warrant Officers in the United States Army, Army National Guard and the Army Reserves," said CW2 Brian Maschino, WOCS Platoon Trainer.

Phase I is a distance learning phase where candidates take academic courses on-line about general military topics; ranging from uniform wear and communication skills to the military code-of-conduct and ethics.

Phase II is a resident portion held at Fort Meade, consisting of five weekend drills that started in March and ran through July. These training periods cover additional academic classroom instruction, such as military and warrant officer history, and military organization and operating environments.

Phase III is a 15-day consolidated program at Fort McClellan, Ala., where candidates are pushed to their mental and physical limits with leadership reaction courses, road marches and field training exercises.

"Candidates train in a demanding, high stress, 24-hour environment," said Maschino. "Maintaining this demanding and stressful environment is an essential ingredient in developing and teaching leadership skills that are common in today's combat environment."

The newly appointed Warrant Officers will be assigned to various units throughout the state. They will next attend their Warrant Officer Basic Course, which is specialty training in their field of expertise and depending on their field it can range from eight to 18 weeks.

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Prepare for winter driving

By Marjorie M. Montemayor, MA
Federal Emergency Management Agency

The season for snow and ice, slipping and sliding, and traffic accidents is here. But you don't have to be a victim of the leading cause of death during winter storms. You can reduce your risk of an accident by preparing your vehicle for the winter season, learning how to react if you are driving in slippery conditions, and knowing what to do if you are stranded or lost on the road. Here are some tips that can help.

Heavy snow, hail, and rain reduce visibility. Slow down and use your headlights. When roads are icy or slushy, allow plenty of room to slow down and stop—at least three times the normal distance to reach a full stop and avoid skidding. In icy conditions, it can take ten times longer to stop than on a dry road. Avoid harsh braking and acceleration. To brake on ice or snow without locking your wheels, switch into low gear early and allow your vehicle to slow down before gently braking. If your vehicle starts to skid, ease off the accelerator, but don't brake suddenly.

If you find yourself stuck in snow or ice, do not continue to spin your wheels. Instead, pour sand, salt, or gravel around the drive wheels. Also, shovel snow away from the wheels and out from under the car to clear a pathway.

Make sure the tires have adequate tread. All-weather radials are usually adequate for most winter conditions. However, some areas require that vehicles be equipped with chains or snow tires with studs.

Prepare a Winter Car Kit to Keep in Your Car

- Windshield scraper and small broom for ice and snow removal
- Flashlights with extra batteries, booster/jumper cables
- First aid kit with pocket knife, necessary medications



- Several blankets, sleeping bags, matches and a lighter
- Extra set of mittens, socks, and a wool cap
- Small sack of sand for generating traction under wheels, small shovel
- A cell phone to call for help
- Brightly colored cloth to use as a flag
- Canned fruit and nuts (Choose ones with pull tabs or screw on caps.)
- Bottled water
- Extra newspapers for insulation, plastic bags (for sanitation)
- Set of tire chains or traction mat

Other Helpful Hints

- Maintain at least a half tank of gas during the winter season.
- Give yourself plenty of time to get where you're going.
- Listen to the radio or call the state highway patrol for the latest road conditions.
- Travel during daylight and take at least one other person.
- Dress warmly and wear layers of loose-fitting, layered, lightweight clothing.
- Carry a supply of high-energy snacks and several bottles of water.

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TRICARE Retired Reserve Launches

FALLS CHURCH, Va. – For the first time, members of the Retired Reserve who are not yet age 60, the so-called “gray area” retirees, can purchase TRICARE health coverage for themselves and their eligible family members with the Sept. 1, 2010 launch of TRICARE Retired Reserve (TRR).

“This new program offers a health coverage opportunity for “gray area” Guardsmen and Reservists who served America honorably, setting a proud example for today’s forces,” said Rear Adm. Christine Hunter, deputy director of the TRICARE Management Activity. “TRICARE Retired Reserve will provide an outstanding health benefit.”

Retired Reservists may qualify to purchase TRR coverage if they are under the age of 60 and are not eligible for, or enrolled in, the Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) program. They must also be members of the Retired Reserve of a Reserve component and qualified for non-regular retirement. For instructions on how to qualify for and purchase TRR go to www.tricare.mil/trr.

For calendar year 2010, the TRR member-only monthly premium is \$388.31 (\$4,659.72 yearly), and the member and family monthly premium is \$976.41 (\$11,716.92 yearly). Premiums will be adjusted annually.

The comprehensive health care coverage provided by the premium-based TRR is similar to TRICARE Standard. After purchasing TRR, members will receive the TRICARE Retired Reserve Handbook, which includes details about covered services, how to get care and who to contact for assistance. For more information, visit www.tricare.mil/trr.

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The TRICARE Management Activity administers the worldwide health care plan for 9.6 million eligible beneficiaries of the uniformed services, retirees and their families.



Strong Bonds building ready families

Story by Master Sgt. Leah Braun
Chaplains Office

Thirty-five Army and Air National Guard married couples completed a two-day workshop entitled “Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage” and were also treated to a Dave Ramsey’s Financial Peace University one-hour primer at the Ramkota Best Western Hotel and Convention Center in Rapid City Sept. 11-12.

The event was part of a program known as Strong Bonds, a unite-based, chaplain-led program that assists commanders in building individual resiliency by strengthening the Guard Family.

The core mission of the Strong Bonds program is to increase individual Soldier and family member readiness through relationship education and skills training.

Leading the event was full-time Support Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Lynn Wilson and State Chaplain Assistant, Master Sgt. Leah Braun, with help from two other Chaplain Assistants: Staff Sgt. Dave Stimes and Sgt. Jeff Beougher.

“It can be challenging to get couples to a marriage workshop because they envision more of a counseling setting,” said Braun. “Once they arrive and see that it’s education, they relax. Once they complete the training, they are our best ambassadors for the program. Many have even told us with tears that it has changed their marriage for the better.”

The South Dakota National Guard’s Strong Bonds program started in 2005 and since its inception, 23 events have been held. Yellow Ribbon and Strong Bonds make a nice match because Soldiers, Airmen and family members enjoy having the services and education all in one

weekend. Go to the Strong Bonds website at www.strongbonds.org to learn more.

Survival Skills for Healthy Families

January 22-23 - Rapid City

Survival Skills for Healthy Families is education for families, including children ages 7 and up, with the following sessions: Parents in Healthy Families; Children in Healthy Families; Adult Relationships-Couples in Healthy Families; As Children Grow-Change in Healthy Families; Solving Family Problems; and Sex, Drugs, and You-Passing on Your Values to Your Children. Each session is organized around practical guidelines for healthy family interactions, which are demonstrated and then practiced with the participants. Onsite childcare is available for children younger than 7. Go to www.familywellness.com for additional information.

Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage/Intro. to Financial Peace Univ.

March 12-13 - Sioux Falls

“Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage” is video-based education aimed at helping couples get it right, get along, have fun, and achieve a successful marriage. “Laugh Your Way” author Mark Gungor’s candid and comedic approach uses unforgettable illustrations to teach proven principles that are guaranteed to strengthen any marriage. Go to www.laughyourway.com for additional details.

PICK and Financial Peace for Singles

March 12-13 - Sioux Falls

Premarital Interpersonal Choices and Knowledge (PICK), also known as How To Avoid Falling for a Jerk(ette), teaches a way to build a healthy relationship that keeps the head and heart working together. This program is designed to provide singles and singles-again of all ages with a plan for pacing a relationship and exploring the key areas that foreshadow what that partner will be like in marriage. Check out www.nojerks.com for more information.

Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage/Intro. to Financial Peace University

August 6-7 - Chamberlain

Have you ever heard the expression, “marriage is a lot of work”? Come find out what the ‘work’ of marriage is and laugh while you do it.

PICK and Financial Peace for Singles

August 6-7 - Chamberlain

PICK is for singles and singles-again of all ages. Think of it as a recon for the heart.



TRICARE Retiree Dental Program

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AWARDS



BRONZE STAR MEDAL WITH VALOR

SSG VANHOLLAND, RYAN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)



BRONZE STAR MEDAL

CPT ABRAHAM, HEATH _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 COL ANDERSON, JEFFERY _____ 196TH MEB
 1LT BIERLE, MICHAEL _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 MSG DORNBUSCH, JOHN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SSG FRANCISCO, MARK _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SGT LAABS, BENJAMIN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 1LT LONG, CHRISTOPHER _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SFC PLOOSTER, MICHAEL _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)



PURPLE HEART

CPT ABRAHAM, HEATH _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 PFC CLEMENS, PATRICK _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC DEBUHR, TRAVIS _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 PFC FLEEK, JONATHAN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC HANSON, JD _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SGT IRVIN, TODD _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC JONES, DREW _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC KRUMM, JOSHUA _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC KRUSE, BENJAMIN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SGT LEE, ROBERT _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 PV2 NUSSBAUM, KEVIN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC REISCH, MICHAEL _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC REISCH, TIMOTHY _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC VISSIA, JACOB _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)



MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

SSG ANDERSON, JOHN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 CMSGT BRENNAN, REBECCA _____ 114TH FSS
 CMSGT COWNIE, BRETT _____ 114TH AMS
 SFC FERBER, MARK _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SFC HARRINGTON, DANIEL _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 LTCOL HUNSTAD, CLARK _____ 175 FIGHTER SQ
 LTCOL JOHNSON, CHRISTOPHER _____ 175 FIGHTER SQ
 LTCOL KRUSE, RICHARD _____ 175 FIGHTER SQ
 SPC LOWMANCRAIG, BRIAN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 LTCOL MAHLER, JODY _____ 175 FIGHTER SQ
 SPC MILLER, BRYAN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC DILSON, NATHAN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 CMSGT SEMMLER, TERRANCE _____ 114TH CES
 SPC SMITH, STEPHEN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 LTCOL VANDERWOLDE, EDWIN _____ 114TH MG
 LTCOL YOUNG, GREGORY _____ 175 FIGHTER SQ



ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL WITH VALOR

SGT LINDHOLM, JEREMY _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)



ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL

SFC ALBERS, JON _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SSG ARMSTRONG, ADAM _____ CO C 1ST BN 189TH AV

SPC BAUER, JUSTIN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SGT BOBZIEN, KEITH _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 CPT CAMBELL, JASON _____ JFHQ
 SPC CRISSMAN, RAMSEY _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC CUMMINGS, CHASE _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SFC CUNNINGHAM, JOSHUA _____ 196TH MEB
 SGT DARRACH, NATHAN _____ JFHQ
 SPC DEBUHR, TRAVIS _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 MAJ DREYER, SHELBY _____ JFHQ
 SGT DUFEK, JEFFREY _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SGT DURANDT, LOUIS _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC EGGERS, BRANDON _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 MSG ELITS, MELVIN _____ 152ND CSSB
 SPC HALLER, JASEN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC HAMANN, CHRISTOPHER _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC HANSON, JD _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 LTC HARDER, MARK _____ 881ST TC
 MSG HEIN, JAMES _____ SD TRNG SITE
 SPC HENDRICKSON, JONAS _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 ISG HOFER, WADE _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC HOWARD, MATTHEW _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SGT IRVIN, TODD _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC JONES, DREW _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC KROPUENSKA, SETH _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC LANNING, GRANT _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SGT LEE, ROBERT _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SGT LEWNO, DARIN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 CW3 LOOFBOURDW, FRED _____ DET 3 CO A 641ST AV
 SPC MALECEK, JASON _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC MCGHEE, ELI _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC MCKINNEY, CHRISTOPHER _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 1LT MOORE, PAULA _____ 1978TH CONTRACTING TM
 SSG MORGAN, BRIAN _____ JFHQ
 SPC NOELDER, JUSTIN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SGT PETERSEN, JEFFERY _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC PETERSON, BENJAMIN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SGT PETRIK, BENJAMIN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 MAJ PHELPS, MARK _____ JFHQ
 SPC PONCELET, JACKSON _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SGT PONCELET, MARK _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SGT RAGSDALE, CHANGE _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 CPL REISCH, MICHAEL _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 1LT ROSELLES, MICHAEL _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SSG RUS, DARIN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SFC SCHARN, MARK _____ JFHQ
 SSG SCHMIDT, ROBERT _____ 196TH MEB
 MAJ SCHLDTTERBACK, TIMOTHY _____ 109TH RSG
 SSG SCHUMACHER, DANIEL _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SFC SMITH, JODY _____ JFHQ
 ISG SPAANS, TERRY _____ JFHQ
 SGT SPILDE, MATTHEW _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 LTC STAPLETON, PATRICK _____ 109TH RSG
 SPC VISSIA, JACOB _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 PFC WALBERG, JEREMY _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SSG WALLACE, SCOTT _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SGT WALKER, CLINTON _____ DET 3 CO A 641ST AV
 SSG WALLIN, NEIL _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 CW4 WRIGHT, LYNN _____ JFHQ



AIR FORCE COMMENDATION MEDAL

MSGT PRICKETT, ROCHELLE _____ 175 FIGHTER SQ
 SMSGT VANBEEK, GILMAR _____ 114TH MAINT. OPS FT
 TSGT WESTBERG, TODD _____ 114TH COMM
 TSGT ZICKRICK, KEVIN _____ 114TH OPS



ARMY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

CPT BACORN, LESLIE _____ 1742ND TRANS CO
 PFC BINSTOCK, KERSI _____ 200TH EN CO

SGT BIRK, GARETH _____ 842ND EN CO (HORZ)
 SPC BEETTCHEER, TYREL _____ 842ND EN CO (HORZ)
 SSG BLOOD, DONNA _____ JFHQ
 SGT BRANDSRUD, RUSTY _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC BROWN, STEVEN _____ HSC 153RD EN BA
 DC CARLSON, CHAD _____ 129TH MPAD
 SSG EBSEN, PAUL _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SSG ERICKSON, CINDY _____ 842ND EN CO (HORZ)
 SPC FRANKA, JARED _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SGT FULLER, JUSTIN _____ 842ND EN CO (HORZ)
 PFC GUPTILL, TATE _____ 935TH SUPPORT BN
 SFC HUDSON, SHAWN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC JONES, BRUCE _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC KIRSCHMAN, JESSE _____ 842ND EN CO (HORZ)
 SGT KONECHNE, FRANCIS _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC LEICHTENBERG, JAY _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SGT LINDHOLM, JEREMY _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC LONGBRAKE, DELBERT _____ 200TH EN CO
 SGT MAAKESTAD, TIMOTHY _____ 842ND EN CO (HORZ)
 SPC MAKI, CHASE _____ 842ND EN CO (HORZ)
 SSG NELSON, JENNIFER _____ 1/112TH AVN
 SGT PECK, ALEXANDER _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC PHIPPS, BLAINE _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC REISCH, TREVOR _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SSG SCHAFF, BRIAN _____ 842ND EN CO (HORZ)
 SPC SHOEPF, CHRISTOPHER _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC SLAUGHTER, AUSTIN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SGT TOFT, PAUL _____ HSC 153RD EN BA
 SPC ULMER, JETT _____ 200TH EN CO
 CPT WARR, JASON _____ JFHQ
 SPC WEAVER, ALYSSA _____ 842ND EN CO (HORZ)
 SGT WEBER, CHRISTOPHER _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC WEBER, LEE _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC WETZEL, JAY _____ 842ND EN CO (HORZ)
 SGT WOODCKMAN, EMILY _____ HSC 153RD EN BA
 SPC VANHECKE, TYLER _____ HSC 153RD EN BA
 SFC YOUNG, ROBERT _____ 129TH MPAD



AIR FORCE ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

SSGT BIRR, SCOTT _____ 114TH AMS
 SSGT BLOM, NATHAN _____ 114TH MAINT. SQ
 TSGT HAKL, JAMES _____ 114TH MAINT. SQ
 SSGT HENDERSON, HEATHER _____ 114TH MAINT. OPS FT
 SRA MEYER, NATHAN _____ 114TH OPG
 1LT SCHLEDEWITZ, DELL _____ 175 FIGHTER SQ
 SRA SMEENK, JENNA _____ 114TH OPG
 SSGT TURNBULL, CLINTON _____ 175 FIGHTER SQ



ARMY GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL

SFC BURR, DAVID _____ JFHQ
 SFC CHRISTIE, CALVIN _____ HHC 152ND, CSSB
 SFC REEDER, SHELLEY _____ HHC 152ND, CSSB



SOUTH DAKOTA DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

SGT ACHEN, RICHARD _____ 740TH TRANS CO
 SPC ANTONMARCHI, JOSHUA _____ 155TH EN CO (VERT)
 SSG BARRS, STEVE _____ 881ST TC
 SPC BLASIVUS, WAYLON _____ 155TH EN CO (VERT)
 SGT BLASIVUS, MATTHEW _____ 200TH EN CO
 SPC BLASIVUS, WAYLON _____ 155TH EN CO (VERT)
 SGT BRADSHAW, ROBERT _____ 842ND EN CO (HORZ)
 SGT BREESCHOTEN, JOHN _____ 740TH TRANS CO

SGT BUTT, JOHN _____ 842ND EN CO (HORZ)
 SGT CARLIN, SHAWN _____ 842ND EN CO (HORZ)
 SPC CHANDLER, AARON _____ 740TH TRANS CO
 PFC COOK, BENJAMIN _____ 842ND EN CO (HORZ)
 SSG CRANE, SHANNON _____ 129TH MPAD
 SPC DIXON, DEVON _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SGT DOOLEY, NICHOLAS _____ 740TH TRANS CO
 PFC DOTY, AUSTEN _____ 730TH ASMC
 PFC GREEN, ALAN _____ 842ND EN CO (HORZ)
 SPC GILLEN, MARK _____ 155TH EN CO (VERT)
 SFC GRUENER, PAUL _____ 740TH TRANS CO
 PFC HAGEL, TAYLOR _____ 842ND EN CO (HORZ)
 SPC HAGEMAN, CODY _____ 740TH TRANS CO
 SGT HEISINGER, BILLY _____ 842ND EN CO (HORZ)
 PFC HERMAN, NICHOLAS _____ 842ND EN CO (HORZ)
 SSG HOSS, FRANK _____ 740TH TRANS CO
 SPC HUBBELL, SCOTT _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC HUSMAN, JACOB _____ 200TH EN CO
 SGT JENSEN, LACY _____ CO C 1/189TH
 SGT JOHNSON, BRIAN _____ 155TH EN CO (VERT)
 PFC KARLEN, DILLON _____ 740TH TRANS CO
 SPC KLEINSCHMIDT, MATTHEW _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC KLUTHE, TROY _____ 155TH EN CO (VERT)
 SGT KOERNER, LUKES _____ 842ND EN CO (HORZ)
 PFC KOKESH, KIMBERLY _____ 155TH EN CO (VERT)
 PFC KROGSTAD, RYAN _____ 451ST EN DET (FIREFIGHTING TEAM)
 SGT LUCKHURST, JACK _____ 740TH TRANS CO
 SSG LUDWIG, JOHN _____ 740TH TRANS CO
 SPC PINA, GREG _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC DDEA, JOSHUA _____ 200TH EN CO
 SPC OGRADY ROBERT _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SSG OLIVER, KRIS _____ 200TH EN CO
 PFC ROE, JARED _____ 200TH EN CO
 SPC SCHULLER, JOSHUA _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 CW3 SCHNEIDER, JOHN _____ 641ST AVN
 PFC SEINER, CODY _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SSG SHRAKE, CHANCEY _____ 200TH EN CO
 SGT SMITH, DARRELL _____ 842ND EN CO (HORZ)
 SGT SMITH, MARK _____ 155TH EN CO (VERT)
 SSG SPENCER, WESLEY _____ 200TH EN CO
 SSG TVINNEREIM, AARON _____ 740TH TRANS CO
 SPC WIFE, ZACHARIA _____ 200TH EN CO
 SPC WILLIAMS, JAMES _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SSG ZAVESKY, DALE _____ HSC 153RD EN BA

SPC FRANKA, JARED _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC HALLER, JASEN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC HALLER, JESSE _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 PFC HAMANN, CHRISTOPHER _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC HENDRICKSON, JONAS _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC HICKS, DEXTON _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC HOWARD, MATTHEW _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC JONES, BRUCE _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC JONES, DREW _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC JURGENS, JARRETT _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC KLEINSCHMIDT, MATTHEW _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC KOLLIS, STEVEN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SGT KONECHNE, FRANCIS _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC KUHARKSI, SHAUN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC LANNING, GRANT _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SGT LEE, ROBERT _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC LEICHTENBERG, JAY _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC MALECEK, JASON _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC MCGEEHEE, ELI _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC MCKINNEY, CHRISTOPHER _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC NILSEN, THOMAS _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 PFC NOELONER, JUSTIN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC O'GRADY, ROBERT _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 PV2 PECK, ALEXANDER _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC PETERSON, BENJAMIN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 PFC PHIPPS, BLAINE _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC PILLAR, MATTHEW _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC PINA, GREG _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC RADACK, ZACHARY _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC REISCH, MICHAEL _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC REISCH, TIMOTHY _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC REISCH, TREVOR _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC RENTSCH, BENJAMIN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC RICK, JOSHUA _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC SCHINDLER, COLIN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC SCHMIDT, MATTHEW _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC SCHOEPEF, CHRISTOPHER _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC SCHULLER, JOSHUA _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 PFC SEINER, CODY _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC SLAUGHTER, AUSTIN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC VISSIA, JACOB _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC WAGNER, PATRICK _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC WALBERG, JEREMY _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC WEBSTER, CHRISTOPHER _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC WEST, SAMUEL _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC WILLIAMS, JAMES _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)

BUUS, DERRIS _____ HSC 153RD EN BN
 CARR, ELIANN _____ 152ND CSSB
 NACHTIGALL, MITCHELL _____ HSC 153RD EN BN
 NIEWENHUIS, LANCE _____ 114TH CES
 ODELL, JEFFREY _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 WILLEMS, CARLTON _____ 152ND CSSB

FIRST LIEUTENANT

CLINE, AMANDA _____ 200TH EN CO (MRBC)
 LIEN, JOSHUA _____ FSC 153RD EN BN
 RICE, NICOLE _____ MED CMD
 STEWART, THOMAS _____ 842ND EN CO (HORZ)

SECOND LIEUTENANT

BRYANT, KEITH _____ 82ND CIVIL SUPPORT TEAM
 SCHIMKE, CHRISTOPHER _____ 155TH EN CO (VERT)

CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER (I-5)

CW5 EWERT, LEON _____ 196TH MEB
 CW4 NICOLAISEN, ALAN _____ 1742ND TRANS CO
 CW3 WHITE, WILLIAM _____ FSC 153RD EN BN
 CW2 DUNGEY, GWEN _____ 196TH MEB
 CW2 HARPE, JULIE _____ 641ST AVN
 CW2 FLEMING, JAMES _____ 109TH RSG
 CW2 KELLEY, MICHELLE _____ CO C 1/189TH
 CW2 PRESTON, WILLIAM _____ DET 48 (OSAC)
 CW2 SMITH, ANDREW _____ CO C 1/189TH
 WD1 BLANKENBILLER, GEORGE _____ 109TH RSG
 WD1 FISHER, GENE _____ HHC 152ND CSSB

CHIEF MASTER SERGEANT (E-9)

HORSTMANN, LEE _____ 114TH CES

FIRST SERGEANT (E-8)

STACEY, MARCUS _____ 842ND EN CO (HORZ)

MASTER SERGEANT (E-8)

CERNEY, STEVEN _____ 109TH RSG
 HARKIN, SAMUEL _____ HHC 152ND CSSB
 RAJDL, JOHN _____ 109TH RSG

SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT (E-8)

DELLMAN, ELIZABETH _____ 114TH FSS
 DORN, GERALD _____ 114TH MXS
 SKOTVOLD, ELVIT _____ 114TH AMXS
 VOLDEN, JAMES _____ 114TH CES

SERGEANT 1ST CLASS (E-7)

CARLSON, CHRISTOPHER _____ HHC 152ND CSSB
 CHRISTIE, CALVIN _____ HHC 152ND CSSB

DECORATIONS



COMBAT ACTION BADGE

SPC KETCHAM, BRITTANY _____ 196TH MEB
 SPC NELSON, JACOB _____ 196TH MEB
 SPC SCHIEFFER, DYLAN _____ 196TH MEB
 SSG SCHMIDT, ROBERT _____ 196TH MEB
 SSG SUSSNER, JASON _____ 196TH MEB
 CPT ABRAHAM, HEATH _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SFC ALBERS, JON _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC BUSSER, JACOB _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC CLEMENS, PATRICK _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC CRISSMAN, RAMSEY _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC CUMMINGS, CHASE _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC DALY, MICHAEL _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC DEBOER, CHRISTOPHER _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC DEBUHR, TRAVIS _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC DEFFENBAUGH, BRANDON _____ 196TH MEB
 SPC DIXON, DEVON _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SGT DURANDT, LOUIS _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 PFC EGGERS, BRANDON _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC ENING, DARRIN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SGT FISCHER, MICHAEL _____ 196TH MEB
 PFC FLEEK, JONATHAN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)



COMBAT MEDICAL BADGE

SPC KROPUENSKE, SETH _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC LOWMANCRAIG, BRIAN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC MILLER, BRYAN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SGT OLSON, NATHAN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SPC SMITH, STEPHEN _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
 SSG WALLIN, NIEL _____ 211TH EN CO (SAPPER)

PROMOTIONS

MAJOR

SHEETS, DAVID _____ MED CMD
 MANKE, WILLIAM _____ 730TH ASMC

CAPTAIN

BACORN, LESLIE _____ 1742ND TRANS CO

CLEMENTS, PHILLIP	200TH EN CO (MRBC)
DEGEN, THOMAS	HSC 153RD EN BN
FLATMDE, ERIC	842ND EN CO (HORZ)
GUNDERSON, NEAL	1742ND TRANS CO
HARTY, TODD	FSC 153RD EN BN
MCCANN, RANDALL	DET 48 (OSAC)
MCCORKLE, JOHN	HSC 153RD EN BN
MENDEL, MERRIT	HSC 153RD EN BN
MULLEN, MICHAEL	200 EN CO (MRBC)
POKORNEY, TRAVIS	842ND EN CO (HORZ)
SCHMITZ, CHADWICK	HHC 152ND CSSB

STAFF SERGEANT (E-6)

ALEXANDER, DARRYL	842ND EN CO (HORZ)
BAKER, ALLAN	HSC 153RD EN BN
BIERMAN, SARA	740TH TRANS CO
CARR, ROBERT	842ND EN CO (HORZ)
COWGER, JACQUELINE	MED CMD
ERICKSON, CINDY	842ND EN CO (HORZ)
EVANS, JEREMIE	200 EN CO (MRBC)
GATES, TREVER	200 EN CO (MRBC)
HANSON, RYAN	211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
JOHNSON, NICHOLAS	200 EN CO (MRBC)
KESSLER, ANDREW	FSC 153RD EN BN
MCGRUDER, JOHN	152ND CSSB
REED, MARC	155TH EN CO (VERT)
SANDERSON, ADAM	155TH EN CO (VERT)
SIHRER, CHRISTINA	155TH EN CO (VERT)

TECHNICAL SERGEANT (E-6)

CARDA, CHIP	114TH FW CES
DOOLNEY, ADAM	114TH AMXS
KRCIL, JASON	114TH CES
KREUL, MARK	114TH OG
NIELSON, NICHOLAS	114TH MXS
WILSON, MICHAEL	114TH AMXS

SERGEANT (E-5)

BERTSCH, TANNER	155TH EN CO (VERT)
BIRK, GARETH	FSC 153RD EN BN
BRAMBLEE, TANE	200TH EN CO (MRBC)
BROCKEL, TYLER	740TH TRANS CO
BULTSMA, JARROD	155TH EN CO (VERT)
DURANDT, LEWIS	211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
ENGLE, REED	HSC 153RD EN BN
FRANCISCO, MARK	211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
FULLER, DERRICK	842ND EN CO (HORZ)
GIGDY, ALEXANDER	155TH EN CO (VERT)
HITTLE, JOHN	HSC 153RD EN BN
HOBBS, RACHEL	MED CMD
HUNT, CHRISTOPHER	842ND EN CO (HORZ)
JOHNSON, BRIAN	155TH EN CO (VERT)
KENNEDY, ANDREW	927TH SURVEY & DESIGN
LAPDINTE, DEREK	1742ND TRANS CO
LEWIS, RICHARD	842ND EN CO (HORZ)
LYNCH, CAMERON	155TH EN CO (VERT)

MITCHELL, DUSTY	200TH EN CO (MRBC)
NETH, JOHN	FSC 153RD EN BN
NIELSEN, JESSICA	842ND EN CO (HORZ)
RHODES, ANTHONY	927TH SURVEY & DESIGN
ROUSSEAU, RONALD	200 EN CO (MRBC)
RUEN, JUSTYNN	842ND EN CO (HORZ)
SIEH, TYLER	740TH TRANS CO
SIRIGNANO, RILEY	1/112TH AVN
SMITH, MARK	155 EN CO (VERT)
SORCIC, SAMUEL	842ND EN CO (HORZ)
STRANG, TAMMI	152ND CSSB
THOMAS, JARED	200TH EN CO (MRBC)
THOMPSON, CAROLINE	740TH TRANS CO
VOGT, TRENT	155TH EN CO (VERT)
WEBER, CHRISTOPHER	211TH EN CO (SAPPER)
WEBER, CORY	FSC 153RD EN BN
WILLIAMSON, NATHAN	842ND EN CO (HORZ)
WITTMER, AMANDA	147TH ARMY BAND
WOLLMAN, JEREMY	155TH EN CO (VERT)
WRIGHT, JENNY	200TH EN CO (MRBC)

STAFF SERGEANT (E-5)

BAYSORE, ROBERT	114TH AMXS
MCKEE, KATIE	114TH AMXS
NIENHUIS, ANTHONY	114TH AMXS
PINOS, JOHN	114TH AMXS
RIPPE, JORDAN	114TH SFS
THREADGOLD, ERIC	114TH LRS
VANDERSOSTYNE, VALERIE	114TH LRS



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SNAPSHOTS

A look at South Dakota's Citizen-Soldiers and Airmen on the go...



Photo by Staff Sgt. Lance Schroeder

ROCHFORD, S.C. - Spc. Shawn Dempsey (left) and Spc. Patrick Jones, both members of the South Dakota National Guard's 842nd Engineer Company, walk 26.2 miles of the Michelson Trail for the Black Hills Veteran March on Sept. 25, 2010.



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Erick Studenicka

TUKWILA, WASH. - South Dakota Army National Guard's Pfc. Mike Scharn, Rapid City, runs with the leaders during the first mile of the summer biathlon mass start national championship. Scharn won the race for the third time. He also won the junior 4-kilometer spring (15:45) on Aug. 18 and the 6-K pursuit (26:48) on Aug. 19. Scharn was one of four elite National Guard biathletes competing in the four-day competition at the Seattle Police Association facility.

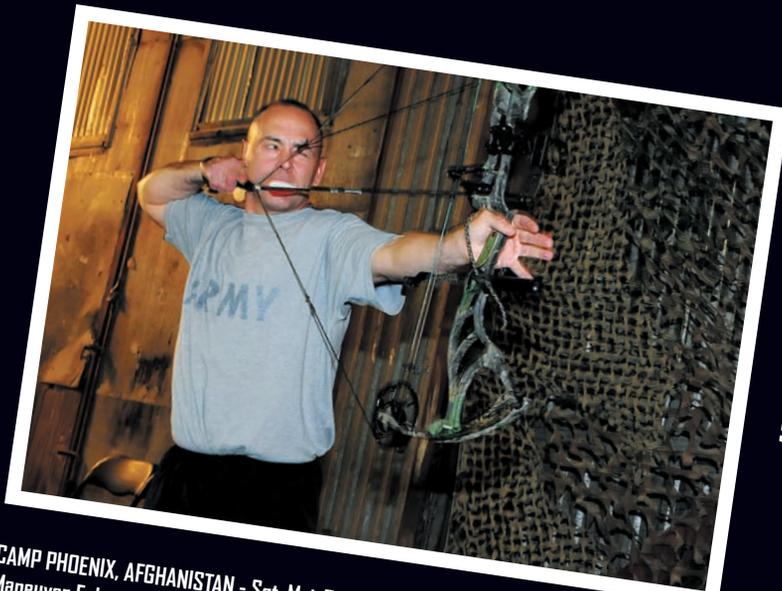


Photo by Capt. Anthony Deiss

CAMP PHOENIX, AFGHANISTAN - Sgt. Maj. Todd Rose, operations sergeant for the 196th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, South Dakota Army National Guard, takes aim at a target with his bow, Sept. 12, at Camp Phoenix in Kabul, Afghanistan. Rose, of Watertown, S.D., and other members of the 196th, get together several times a week to practice their bow hunting techniques and to share camaraderie and passion for the sport.



Photo by DC Chad Carlson

MADISON, S.D. - This mother and daughter were just one of several hundred people that lined the streets of Madison and De Smet on Sept. 17, 2010, to welcome home members of the South Dakota Army National Guard's 21st Engineer Company (Sapper) from their one-year route-clearance mission in Afghanistan.

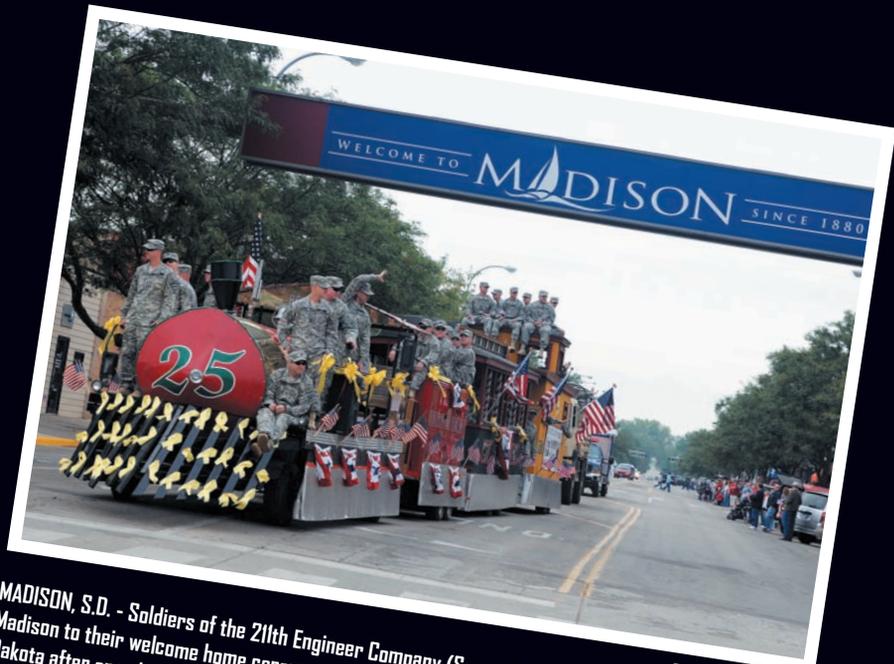


Photo by DC Chad Carlson

MADISON, S.D. - Soldiers of the 21st Engineer Company (Sapper) ride a train through the city of Madison to their welcome home ceremony on Sept. 17, 2010. The unit had just returned to South Dakota after spending a year in Afghanistan conducting route-clearance missions.



Photo by Sgt. Charles Butler

MADISON, S.D. - Donna Wagner embraces her son, Spc. Patrick Wager, 21st Engineer Company (Sapper), moments after he arrived at the Dakota State Fieldhouse in Madison for his unit's welcome home ceremony. Wagner and 112 other members of the 21st arrived back in South Dakota on Sept. 17, 2010, after spending one year in Afghanistan.



Photo by DC Chad Carlson

MADISON, S.D. - Madigan Wallin, 3, waits for her daddy, Staff Sgt. Neil Wallin, 21st Engineer Company (Sapper), outside of the Dakota State Fieldhouse at the welcome home ceremony for the 21st on Sept. 17, 2010. The streets of Madison were bursting with excitement as proud supports gathered to welcome the 113 Soldiers home.



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