



SPORTS & RECREATION

FEBRUARY 18, 2010

416th Trans downs Engineers in intramural basketball action



Sgt. Brittani Williams, Hunter Public Affairs Office

Sgt. Brittina Williams
Hunter Public Affairs Office

Joseph Sanders poured in 18 points and the 416th Quartermaster Company used a strong second half to defeat the Savannah Corps of Engineers' basketball team 47-41 in an intramural basketball game played in Hunter Army Airfield's Tominac Fitness Center Feb. 10.

With the season winding down, the victory greatly helps the 416th's playoff chances as their record advances to 7-4. The loss drops the Engineers' record to 4-8.

The 416th used pressure defense that produced many fast-break baskets in the first half.

However, the outside shooting of the Engineers' Otis Anderson resulting in the Engineers taking a 26-25 lead into the half.

The difference in the game was the 416th's ability to convert free throws in the second half and the Engineers missing some easy shots.

With four minutes remaining, the 416th had a 37-30 lead. The Engineers fought back to 45-41, but the 416th's suffocating defense prevented them from completing the comeback.

The game ended with a highlight reel alley-oop pass Marcel Brevard to Antonio Coleman who electrified the crowd with a powerful slam dunk.

"Tonight's victory was simply attributed to our playing team ball and staying focused on the game," said Brevard.

The Engineers were led by Emmanuel Adegoke, who led the engineers' offense with 11 points. "Adegoke played a solid game but the rest of us made too many mental errors and we weren't able to make easy shots," Anderson remarked after the game.

The regular season ends this week, and the post season tournament is scheduled for Feb. 23-25.

Otis Anderson, Savannah Corps of Engineers, connects on a jump shot from the baseline. The Engineers were defeated 47-41 by the Quartermasters.

Lifetime wait payoff

Sgt. Ben Hutto
3rd HBCT Public Affairs Office

FORWARD OPERATING BASE KALSU, Iraq – Staff Sergeant Ronald Louque, Headquarters Troop, Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, waited his whole life to see his beloved New Orleans Saints play in a Super Bowl.

Growing up 20 minutes from New Orleans, in Reserve, La., Staff Sgt. Louque developed two passions – Louisiana State University football and New Orleans Saints football.

"I basically re-enlisted for four years to see football in my room this deployment," he says. "Some people are into working out. Some people are into computers. I love football."

As the game began, Staff Sgt. Louque sat near the far television surrounded by the members of his platoon. Knowing Staff Sgt. Louque is a huge Saints fan, all of his Soldiers seemed to be rooting against him.

"Yeah, everyone is against me," he says with smile. "If the Saints win, I get bragging rights on this FOB until we leave. They don't want that."

The game continued as Staff Sgt. Louque cheered on a big tackle by

Jonathan Vilma, the Saints middle line-backer. He groaned before halftime, as the Saints failed to convert on fourth down near the goal line. As the game's ebb and flow continued, people saw that he was having a good time; the big smile on his face was a dead give-away.

A veteran with three combat tours under his belt, Staff Sgt. Louque has been in areas where watching the Super Bowl wasn't as comfortable.

"I can remember cramming into a tent with a hundred Soldiers during OIF I to see the Super Bowl on a single TV set," he says. "There was no alcohol available. It was just a quick break from reality and a chance to enjoy ourselves before we went back out on patrol."

As the night progressed, Staff Sgt. Louque cheered as the Saints recovered an onside kick after halftime. He pointed at the screen and smiled at his platoon mates when his team took the lead in the fourth quarter. When Payton Manning, the Indianapolis Colt's quarterback, threw a critical interception with seven minutes left in the game, Staff Sgt. Louque let everyone around him know that the game was over. As the final seconds ticked off the clock, Staff Sgt. Louque was content, knowing that for the next year he has bragging rights.

See SUPER BOWL

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Staff Sgt. Natalie Hedrick

Let's get ready to rumble

Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, and the 4th Battalion, 8th Iraqi Army Division, compete in the "Braveheart" competition Feb. 7 during the level two combatives course at Forward Operating Base Echo, Iraq. See Story Page 11B

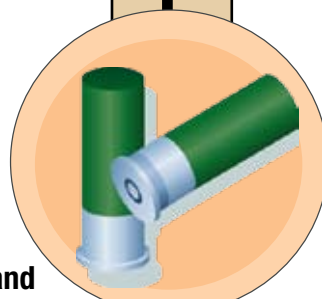
Skeet Shooting events

Ladies Day at the Skeet and Trap Ranges
Feb. 23 • 10 a.m. until noon

Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield
Skeet and Trap Ranges

Learn the basics of shooting skeet and trap.

The \$10 per person fee includes instruction, shotgun use and shells.



Skeet and Trap Lessons for Single Soldiers
Feb. 23 • 5 - 7 p.m.

Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield
Skeet and Trap Ranges

The \$10 per person fee includes instruction, shotgun use and shells.

Call 435-8219 or 435-8205 at Stewart or 315-9250 at Hunter for more details.

1-15 Soldiers take combative rumbles to Iraqis

Staff Sgt. Natalie Hedrick
3rd HBCT Public Affairs Office

FORWARD OPERATING BASE ECHO, Iraq – Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, and the 4th Battalion, 8th Iraqi Army Division, crawled toward each other in a seven-on-seven “Braveheart” rumble Feb. 7 at FOB Echo.

The goal was to take down the opposing team's “king” using techniques learned in their 10-day, level two combatives class. To get to the king, the Soldiers had to fight their way through chokes and take-downs while trying to get their opponents to tap out.

To Private Aqueel, one of the four Iraqi Soldiers going through the class, games like this one are what make learning hand-to-hand combat fun.

“The best part of this class is the

fighting,” he said. “It’s not real fighting but it looks real and it can be used in real situations.”

According to Spc. Tyhavis Dennis, Company F, 1-15 Inf. Regt., a typical day begins at 8 a.m. with warm-up and rotational exercises followed by a review of moves the students learned the day before.

“When we do the review, if anyone had a problem with any move, we go over that move again,” he said.

Dennis explained when the class reviews a move, two Soldiers demonstrate the move. Then they are critiqued by the rest of the class.

“We help each other,” he said.

Chatter among the class is crucial according to Staff Sgt. Joe Vasquez, an instructor in the course. Each combatives move is taught visually and verbally.

“We do and say the moves because these are the guys that are going back to

their companies and teaching this,” Vasquez explained. “They are going to be the subject matter experts, so they have to be able to do the move and explain how they are doing it.”

Aqueel said combatives is not taught in the Iraqi Army, so he will be going back to his unit to teach his fellow Soldiers.

Vasquez said the quicker they understand a particular move, the quicker they can move on to something else. The students learn between five and 10 moves a day.

Vasquez, who is one of seven level four certified Soldiers in the battalion, explained more goes into learning how to fight. He teaches his students also how to dive, roll, fall, and take a hit.

“We do slaps and punches so they know what contact feels like,” he said. “We also do things like dives and rolls so they know how to land without getting injured. There is a difference

between hurt and injured. The Soldiers need to know that.”

Each move, whether it’s fighting or falling, is taught in detailed technique. Dennis explained strength plays little part in properly executing a move. The instructors make sure of that.

“They tire us out by making us do ‘burpies,’” he said. “When we’re done, all we have is technique because we are so tired. It makes us better fighters.”

A burpie is a push-up followed by a quick jump in the air with fingers and arms extended back down to a push-up and repeat.

The class is tough but fun, Vasquez said. In addition to being a common Soldier task, it teaches the students going through a deeper lesson in being a Soldier.

“It builds esprit de corps and a sense of confidence,” he said. “It instills in them the Warrior Ethos and the Soldier’s creed. It makes it true to them.”

Soldier shoots for unprecedented U.S. medal in Olympic biathlon

Tim Hipps
FMWRC Public Affairs

SOLDIER HOLLOW, Utah - Three-time Olympic biathlete Sgt. Jeremy Teela returns to the site of the best performance of his career with sights set on becoming the first U.S. biathlete ever to win an Olympic medal.

Teela, a Soldier in the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program, finished third in the men's 20-kilometer individual race at last season's World Cup stop in Whistler, British Columbia, Canada, the biathlon site for the XXI Olympic Winter Games.

“That was my day,” Teela said of March 11, 2009. “I made as close to a perfect race as I could.”

He remembers the race as if it was yesterday.

“I caught a good ride with an Austrian, who was skiing really well at the time, and a Russian,” Teela recalled with a gleam in his eyes. “They were skiing as a pair. I started and they came through the gate as well, so I hooked up with those two fast guys. Normally, they’re skiing a little faster than me, but on that day I had great skis and I felt great, so I just tagged along. Felt great. They were actually going a little slower than I wanted, but it’s a 20K, so you make sure you keep a good pace.”

“I stayed with them for three or four loops and I was putting in some good ski times and was top 10 or top 12. Then I started shooting well. The fourth loop, I came in and kind of knew I was 14 for 15.”

Teela was enjoying one of his best shooting days on a biathlon range.

“I came in the last stage and didn’t have any

thought in my head,” he said. “There was no activity. I just went in and did my normal thing... then looked up and said, ‘Wow! Shot perfect last stage!’ All these guys were there jumping up and down and waving their hands, saying ‘Go! Go!’ I was like, ‘Sweet, alright, everyone’s cheering, cool.’”

“I got down the course and was maybe a half-kilometer out, and coach was there saying, ‘You’re in second place.’ And I was like, ‘No stuff, second place, huh?’ I always thought if somebody told me I was podium bound, I would have this extra kick in me - but I had nothing. I was fighting... just going as hard as I could.”

With his third-place finish, Teela became the first American biathlete to win a World Cup medal since Josh Thompson in 1992.

“I was coming in second but there was this one German kid who also was having a great race,” Teela said. “I don’t know if I could have done anything to counter his kick, but all in all, third place. I was psyched. He did get me, but that was the best performance of my career.”

U.S. biathlon coach Per Nilsson was impressed with Teela’s poise under pressure.

“I am really amazed how ‘cool’ he was on the shooting range,” Nilsson said. “There were two shots that were pretty close to a miss, but nevertheless, he stayed focused and just put his race together.”

Teela, 33, who trains in Heber City, Utah, and claims Anchorage as home, expects unprecedented success this year at Whistler. His 14th-place individual finish at the 2002 Olympic Winter Games in Soldier Hollow remains the second-best U.S. finish at the Olympics,

where Team USA remains 0-for-forever in biathlon.

“I think a podium is within reach,” Teela said. “I showed it last year at Vancouver, but you really have to have the mindset. Your mind has to be in the right spot. I think a podium is in the cards for the team. We have four guys that are strong. And even the relay, I think we have a great shot at podium in that competition as well.”

He is currently competing at the Vancouver (Winter Olympic) Games with Tim Burke, who medaled twice on the 2009-2010 World Cup circuit since Teela’s third-place finish at Whistler. Burke, 27, of Paul Smiths, N.Y., headlines this U.S. Olympic biathlon squad, joined by Teela, four-time Olympian Jay Hakkinen, 32, of Kasilof, Alaska, Lowell Bailey, 28, of Lake Placid, N.Y., and first-timer Wynn Roberts, 21, of Battle Creek, Minn.

“You try to be the best that day,” Teela said. “You don’t have to be the best in the world. All you have to do is be the best at the Olympics on that day.”

“I’ve got two jackets. I want the hardware.”

Teela says he’s honored to represent Soldiers and their Families worldwide.

“It’s an amazing opportunity given to you to be able to race and compete at the Olympics and to represent the United States, but it’s also special for me to race and compete for the Army,” he said. “It’s hard to explain - just to show up and have so many people rooting for you.”

“You show up and you race alone, but there’s been a lot of people along the road that’s helped you get to where you are. I’ve got a big strong team behind me that says U.S. Army on it.”

Stewart-Hunter Intramural Basketball

ROCKY CONFERENCE

SCORES AND LEADING SCORERS

Games Feb. 10

B Co. WTU 28, MEDDAC 26

B Co. WTU

White, 6 points

MEDDAC

Moore, 7 points

HD 385th MP Co. 44, 92nd CHEM Co. 38

HD 385th MP Co.

Reed, 21 points

Games Feb. 11

92nd CHEM Co. 53, 24th FIN Co. 37

92nd CHEM Co.

Allen, 21 points

24th FIN Co.

Jones, 12 points

B Co. WTU 73, 554th EN Co. 42

B Co. WTU

Jones, 15 points

554th EN Co.

James, 14 points

MARNE CONFERENCE

SCORES AND LEADING SCORERS

Games Feb. 10

HQ 92nd EN Bn. 47, 135th QM Co. 39

HQ 92nd EN Bn.

Kelly, 11 points

135th QM Co.

Bogon, 12 points

87th CSSB 47, FMWR Library 33

87th CSSB

Watts, 14 points

FMWR Library

Williams, 14 points

CONFERENCE STANDINGS

Marne Conference

	WON	LOST	PCT
1. 87th CSSB	10	0	1.000
2. 92nd EN Bn.	6	3	.667
3. 984th EN Co.	5	5	.500
4t. 135th MW Co.	4	5	.444
4t. FMWR Library	3	5	.444
5. 526th EN Co.	3	5	.375
6. 24th ORD Co.	3	6	.250
7. HQ 6/8 CAV	1	6	.177

Rocky Conference

	WON	LOST	PCT
1. B Co. WTU	7	0	1.000
2. HD 385th MP Co.	6	1	.833
3. MEDDAC	7	2	.778
4. 92nd Chem Co.	4	4	.500
5. HQ 92nd EN Co.	4	5	.444
6. 554th EN Co.	2	6	.250
7. 90th HR Co.	1	6	.168
8. 24th Finance Co.	1	7	.125

FMWR sports brief

Register now for track, field, soccer

Stewart Child, Youth, and School Services (CYSS) is now accepting registration for Track & Field, plus Spring Soccer. Registration open to all CYSS members in age groups identified below. CYSS Central Registration, building 443, Gulick Ave. is open weekdays, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., except Wednesdays, 9 a.m.-6 p.m., for sign-up. Sports physical required.

Track program begins early March and runs through end of May. Age groups are divided into boys and girls teams who will compete separately. Teams will travel to compete with other track teams in the greater surrounding community. In-house track meets and practices will be conducted at

Stewart's "Quick Track" located on the corner of W. 6th St. & Bundy Ave. Athletes with best scores overall will eventually be combined into one team to participate in GRPA District & State Track Meets. Age groups: 7-8, 9-10, 11-12, 13-14 (boys and girls competing separately).

Spring Soccer starts in March

Spring Soccer starts in early March and runs through late April. Games played either Mondays & Wednesdays, or Tuesdays & Thursdays, depending on tentative schedule. Evaluations to evenly match each team will be held on the large soccer field at Davis Ave beginning at 5:30 p.m. for the following age

divisions/dates: (all age groups co-ed). Evaluations - Ages 6-7, March 2; Ages 8-9, March 3; Ages 10-11 & 12-13, March 4; Ages 4-5: no evaluation required. Teams divided according to age/gender. As soon as teams are formed, the coaches will notify the parents of the team on which their child has been placed.

Volunteer coaches needed

Volunteers to act as coaches are needed for both Track & Field, as well as Spring Soccer.

If you are interested in being involved, please call 767-2312 or 767-4371. Meeting is scheduled for all volunteers at 6 p.m., March 2 at Jordan Youth Gym, building 608.

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It was a good feeling, but as he left the FOB Kalsu dining facility, he was already thinking about his next mission.

"I've got to get some sleep," he explained. "I've got a patrol and I need to be sharp."

How is it possible to go from euphoric fan to serious platoon sergeant in a few moments? It's an easy transition for Staff Sgt. Louque.

"I had an (improvised explosive device) go off about 50 meters behind my vehicle a few days ago," he says. "The Super Bowl is great, but it's just a break from the reality of this place. When it's over, it's right back to work for me and my guys."

According to Staff Sgt. Louque, anything that takes his mind off the mission is dangerous.

"Attention to detail is very important out here," he said. "The moment you let your guard down is when the bad guys will take advantage of you. I love football, but when I'm out there it isn't what I'm thinking about."

Still, for those few hours in the FOB Kalsu DFAC, Staff Sgt. Louque felt like a king.

"It's like a trip back to reality," he says with a chuckle. "It is good to enjoy what life is like back home."



Sgt. Ben Hutto

Staff Sergeant Ronald Louque, Headquarters Troop, Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, inventories his Soldiers' equipment during an inspection at Forward Operating Base Kalsu, Iraq, Feb. 8. Staff Sergeant Louque, a lifelong New Orleans Saints fan, stayed up until the early morning hours two days earlier to see his team emerge victorious at the Super Bowl.