

SPORTS & RECREATION

APRIL 1, 2010



Sergeant Guillermo Roman, 5/7 Cav., fires a ball at the 5th Brigade Federal Police goalie during the soccer tournament on FOB Falcon, March 25.

Photos by Spc. Jared Eastman

Soldiers from 5th Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment, and policemen from 5th and 7th Brigade, Federal Police, 2nd Federal Police Division, stand on the field at Forward Operating Base Falcon for the opening ceremony of the soccer tournament, March 25.

5/7 Cav hosts soccer tournament

Spc. Jared Eastman
1st BCT-A, 3rd ID, USD-C

BAGHDAD — Iraqi and American brothers put shoes to dirt for a soccer tournament at Forward Operating Base Falcon, March 25.

Fifth Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment, played 5th and 7th Brigade Federal Police, 2nd Federal Police Division, in three action-packed games to determine who is the best security team in southern Baghdad.

The three teams drew cards to determine who would play first. The cards fell to 5/2 and 7/2. While the competition proved fierce between them, the teams had a lighter motive.

"It was a very good feeling," said Adel Abed Ali, 7/2

Iraqi team captain. "We enjoyed this time and are looking forward to more tournaments."

Although the 5/2 played a strong game, they ultimately lost to 7/2, and had to face off against the Americans.

A combination of Iraqi and American music blasted from speakers set on either side of the field as the two team captains waited for the coin toss.

"[These games] let the Iraqis know that we are the same as they are," said Staff Sgt. Michael Simone, soccer team captain and a Soldier in B Troop, 5/7 Cavalry. "A lot of the interaction they have with us is very controlled. They see us at work and we see them at work. This is how nations make friends. You never really know somebody until you've played against them; it was

really good to see another side of people out there."

As the game progressed, U.S. and Iraqi spectators took friendly jabs at one another from across the field with good-natured intent.

"I've played soccer for pretty much my whole life," said Sgt. Guillermo Roman, C Troop, 5/7 Cavalry. "It felt great to come out here and play with my team. It was fun playing against the Iraqis. I felt like I was back in a real tournament."

After a fierce, competitive game that caused some bloody shins and a few bruises, 5/7 Cavalry came out on top.

"We did great today," said Staff Sgt. Simone. "We really came together as a team. To play against a team that was of equal skill was awesome."

See SOCCER

Page 10B

Marne Madness gives Soldiers a break

Spc. Michael Adams
Task Force Marne Public Affairs

CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE SPEICHER, Iraq — In the last few weeks, Soldiers have been following the 64 best teams in men's college basketball during March Madness.

To crown a champion of its own, Task Force Marne hosted 10 teams from all over Task Force Marne United States Division — North in a double elimination tournament aptly called Marne Madness.

The tournament began March 25 and was capped off March 26 after the championship between the Dragons of 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division and the Wings of 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, 25th Infantry Division.

That night, only two teams were left, the 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division Dragons, which had one loss, and the 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, 25th Infantry Division Wings, which was undefeated.



Spc. Michael Adams

Specialist Demarkus McNabb, a team member of Legion with 3rd ID Special Troops Battalion, 3rd ID, drives the ball to the hoop against the Dragons of 4th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, during the March Madness Tournament at COB Speicher, March 26.

See MADNESS

Page 10B

Warm weather makes Golf Scramble a success

Randy Murray
Fort Stewart Public Affairs

Although the greens were just starting to turn green, Friday afternoon found Taylors Creek Golf

Course warm and windy — near-perfect weather conditions for the Garrison Commander's first Golf Scramble of 2010.

According to Jaime Deniziak, golf management trainee at Taylors

Creek, 19 four-man teams signed up for the season opener.

The event got under way with a shotgun start at 1 p.m., March 26.

The players included men and women, active duty and retired

Soldiers, Army Civilians and golf club members.

See GC Scramble Results, Page 10B

SOCCER

— from Page 9B

However, the tournament was not yet complete.

After a short reprieve, 5/7 Cav. marched back on to the field to face 7/2 IFP for the 1st place title. Even the music was halted for the coin toss and the kick off, as both Iraqis and Americans watched in rapt attention to see which team had the advantage. At the half, with a score of 1-0, 5/7 Cav. held on to the lead.

“We are better today,” said Ali. “We enjoyed the game, especially with a friendly team. This is an honor for us to play with the American team and our fellow Iraqi Security Forces.”

Soon after the half, the Iraqis scored a goal for the equalizer, 1-1.

The second half was filled with plenty of near misses on both sides, which caused the crowd to shout more intently. With only two min-

utes left and the score still tied, both sides fought hard for control of the ball. With only 20 seconds left on the clock, 7/2 IFP scored the winning goal. Although 5/7 Cav. tried their hardest, they couldn't penetrate the Iraqi defense.

“I am very proud of my team,” said Ali. “We worked hard today. This is a win for all of Iraq, not just the Federal Police, and I dedicate this win to all the Iraqi people.”

Sergeant Roman smiled and took it all in stride.

“I think it's important to do other things with the Iraqis because it brings cohesion and builds trust,” said Sgt. Roman. “I definitely made a lot of friends, and possibly a friendly enemy or two.”



Spc. Jared Eastman

The 5th Brigade Federal Police goalie jumps for a ball during a game against 5/7 Cav., on FOB Falcon, March 25.

MADNESS

— from Page 9B

With a win, the once-defeated Dragons could force a second game against the undefeated Wings. They were able to do just that, this time coming out on top, 54-50.

The Wings were in top form early, jumping out to a 15-4 lead, but the Dragons came roaring back, and cut the lead to 3 by halftime, thanks to repeated fast-break opportunities.

Wings maintained a lead for most of the second quarter, sloppy play and bad defense allowed the Dragons to take the lead in the final minutes. The Dragons forced a deciding game with a final score of 54-50.

The final game started with both sides

playing sloppy basketball. Wings regrouped and willed their way to a 38-29 win and the Marne Madness championship.

Sergeant First Class Michael Delaney, an air traffic control chief for 3/25th General Support Aviation Battalion, 25th Combat Aviation Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, and a member of the Wings basketball team, was happy to get the win.

The Syracuse, N.Y., native was happy to be a part of the tournament and the break from work.

“It feels good to get away and do something different for awhile,” he said.

But playing all that basketball in two days had its bad side as well as its good.

“It (really) is madness trying to play that many games in a two-day period,” he added. “For an old guy like myself, this is painful, but I really enjoyed it. With all of the young guys that can fly around and shoot, it makes me feel young again.”

Captain Alphonso Gilmore, of Jefferson County, Ga., organized the event and was excited by how the Soldiers reacted.

“This is good for morale,” he said. “This is needed for Soldiers of all ranks to clear their heads and just have fun.”

Captain Gilmore was pleased with what he had seen over the course of the

tournament.

“I think this has been an outstanding tournament,” he said. “People have come up to me and said ‘this is a good tournament.’ I don't think anything like this would have happened in my last deployments.”

But for him, it wasn't about the tournament; it was about the Soldiers.

“This is a big part of morale,” Capt. Gilmore said. “Being in Iraq, we're here to accomplish our mission, but it's always fun to free your mind and do things that you would do back in the states. I would like to thank all the Soldiers who participated in the tournament.”

SCRAMBLE RESULTS

— from Page 9B

1st Place - 62
Russell Johnson
Betsy Ott
Tony Klosek
Jaime Deniziak

2nd Place - 62
Bobby Mize
Kevin McLaughlin
Danny Rico
Art Mathabel

3rd Place - 64 (DES)
Sgt. Maj. Max Brown
Master Sgt. Bart Knoch
Julie Hermann
Chris McCormick

4th Place - 64 (DENTAC)
Col. Phil Patridge

Maj. Justin Burdlemay
Maj. Jeff Hambrice
Isaac Ahn

5th Place - 64 (U.S. Army Garrison)
Col. Kevin Milton
Travis Mobley
Henry Thompson
Royce Kennedy

Closest to the Pin
#2 - Russell Johnson
#8 - Sgt. Kyle McNair
#11 - Henry Thompson
#17 - Josh Wimberly

Longest Drive
Ladies - #7 - Betsy Ott
Men - #18 - Craig Webber
Seniors - #18 - Russell Johnson

Hunter Army Airfield's first Garrison Commander's Golf Scramble is scheduled to take place April 16.

The next Garrison Commander's Golf Scramble at Stewart is scheduled for April 30 with a shotgun start at 1 p.m.

This event will be a 2-person scramble.

To register or for more information, call Jamie Deniziak 767-2370 or 315-9115.

Be sure to look for new golf programs in this week's DFMWR Briefs.



Complete and Return Your Census Form Today!

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Riceboro City Hall
Midway City Hall
Hinesville City Hall
Regency Apts. Community Center
Library, Hinesville Branch

Questions? Visit During These Days and Times

| | |
|-------------|----------------|
| Tues - Sat | 3 pm - 6 pm |
| Mon - Thurs | 2 pm - 5:30 pm |
| Mon - Fri | 2 pm - 5 pm |
| Mon - Fri | 2 pm - 5 pm |
| Mon - Fri | 11 am - 2 pm |
| Mon - Fri | 11 am - 2 pm |
| Mon - Fri | 11 am - 2 pm |
| Mon - Fri | 9 am - 12 noon |
| Mon - Fri | 9 am - 12 noon |

Census forms are also available at:

YMCA (Mon 5-9:30, Sat 8-6, Sun 1-7)
Liberty County Recreation Department (Mon-Fri 10-6)

Completing the 2010 Census form will shape the future for you, your community and the country.

It's Easy. It's Important. It's Confidential.

WE CAN'T MOVE FORWARD UNTIL YOU MAIL IT BACK.



TIME OUT! It all comes down to luck

Commentary by Jennifer Hartwig
Managing Editor

Much like winning the “Marne Madness” basketball tournament that took place at COB Speicher, winning your March Madness bracket takes a lot of luck.

How’s your bracket doing? Not so good? Yeah, mine either...

This year I was unlucky. Those who have done well in their brackets have certainly had luck on their side.

However, despite all of the craziness that happened through the Elite Eight, the Final Four teams aren’t too big of a surprise, aside from Butler, and of course that Kansas is already home – has been since the second round. But Duke, West Virginia and Michigan State (who was in the Final last year) were certainly on everyone’s radar entering the tourney. Sure, none of my Final Four teams – Kansas, Kentucky, Baylor and Kansas State – are in it, but a couple of bounces the other way in the Elite Eight and I’d be 3-for-4. But my bracket as a whole? I’m at a lowly 35 percent... that’s what I call bad luck.

But you show me the people who had those four teams in the Final Four, and I’ll show you the luckiest person I know.

Let’s talk about Butler, the team that seemingly snuck up on everyone. I, like many others, had them losing to Syracuse in the Sweet Sixteen. But the injury to Arinze Onuaku definitely hurt the Orangemen, like I said it would if he was out, which he was – unlucky for Syracuse, very lucky for Butler. So why did I pick Syracuse? I assumed Butler was going to flame out in the third round like they do most seasons. However, the 2009-2010 Butler team is on a 24-game winning streak, which takes more than a little luck, and were certainly underrated entering the tourney. I should have gone with them, but hindsight is 20/20, isn’t it?

Speaking of... I mentioned in my column that Duke had looked good the past few weeks, and got the best draw in the tournament. So then why did I have them losing to Baylor in the Elite Eight? Oh right, because I was caught up in the belief that the Bearcats would pull it off because they were in front of their home crowd, that it would give them luck. But how could I honestly think a home field advantage for a team that hadn’t won an NCAA

tournament game in 50 years would propel them over a perennial powerhouse with one of the best coaches ever? Tsk tsk. I don’t like Duke, but I won’t make that mistake again. Too bad this wasn’t about the women’s tournament, because the Elite Eight game between the Blue Devils and the Bearcats went my way.

Anyway, the point is, no matter how much basketball you watch, or how much research you do, there’s no way to win your NCAA bracket without luck.

Luck – the word that either pushes you or breaks your back. It’s why, undoubtedly, the winner of your pool will be the person who knows the least about sports and picked the games based on colors or mascots. I can’t stand that person, and he/she beats me almost every year.

Luck is what everyone who’s had any success has had – even truly talented, motivated people need some luck to get them to the top. Without luck, you can’t win a Super Bowl, get cast in the role that changed your life, or even win your bracket.

Maybe next year luck will be on my side when I’m picking my teams. Fingers crossed.

SPORTS & RECREATION BRIEFS

The CYSS Central Registration, building 443, Gulick Avenue is open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., for sign-up. For additional information, call the Youth Sports Office at Jordan Youth Gym at 767-4371.

New golf programs offered

Two new programs begin today at Taylors Creek Golf Course, building 2150, and Hunter Golf Club, building 8205. The new programs, which will continue through the end of the year, include:

Club Rental Program - Each time you rent a set of clubs, your name will be entered into a drawing at end of quarter for a free four-some. Rental fees: \$6 (9 holes) and \$12 (18 holes). At end of the year, all names will be entered into drawing for chance to win a set of clubs.

Golf Giveaway Extravaganza - Purchase a round of golf with golf car and have a chance to guess how many golf balls are in our mystery object. The person with the closest number without going over each quarter will win a round of golf for four. At end of the year, all participants will be entered into drawing for a chance to win one month’s worth of unlimited golf.

For more information, call 767-2370 at Stewart or 315-9115 at Hunter.

Sign-Up for 2010 Bass Tournament

Pre-registration will continue until April 7 for the catch and release Stewart-Hunter 2010 “Big Bass” Tournament, scheduled from 7-11 a.m. April 10 at Stewart’s Pond 1 (Pineview Lake).

Participants may register up to one hour before event, if slots remain available. Early registration is encouraged because space is limited.

Contestants can fish from the bank or launch their own bass boat. Boats may be launched before the event but must wait for the horn at safe light to leave the launching area and begin fishing.

Boats must be inspected by tournament personnel prior to launching. The maximum number of anglers permitted in a boat is two.

Participants must have valid Georgia and Stewart-Hunter fishing permits. Prizes will be awarded in youth and adult categories, and an Overall Sportsman prize

Free admission to Verizon Heritage Golf Tournament, April 15-18

Active-duty military and their Family Members get free admission with their military ID to the Verizon Heritage Golf Tournament from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., April 15-18. Servicemembers and their Families can also get complimentary food and beverages at The Patriots’ Outpost, a hospitality tent on the 18th fairway. For more information about the tournament, go to: www.verizonheritage.com.

will be awarded to the active duty winner.

Pre-registration fees are \$10 for ages 15 and under, \$20 for ages 16 and older. Day of Event fees are \$15 and \$30, respectively.

For details, call Stewart Pass and Permit Office at 435-8061.

Register for Stewart Baseball, T-Ball

Baseball registration for CYSS youth will continue until April 30.

Evaluations for all age groups (except T-Ball) will be held May 1, beginning at 9 a.m. for 7-8 year-olds; 12 p.m. for 9-10 year-olds; and 2 p.m. for 11-13 year-olds. Age groups listed are tentative and may need to be adjusted depending on number of participants registered for each age group.

Register at Fort Stewart CYSS, building 443, Gulick Avenue. Hours of operation Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Wednesday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

For more registration regarding sports registration, please call 767-2312. For more information on baseball, please call 767-4371. Volunteers are urgently needed to coach teams. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer coach, please call the Youth Sports office at 767-4371.

For more information on sports available, please call Jordan Youth Gym Sports Office at 767-4371 or 767-9270.

NOTE: Current sports physical is required when

registering for CYSS programs, and must not expire before the program ends.

Wellness Fair scheduled at Newman

Newman Fitness Center will be the site for a free, two-hour fitness event titled “Wellness Fair: Mind and Body.” The event will be held from 5:30-7:30 p.m., April 12.

The fair will include information stations on nutrition, wellness and total fitness.

Health and wellness exhibitors from on and off-post will be onsite to complement the event, such as Winn Army Community Hospital nutrition department, a health coach, Farmers Natural Food Store, massage therapists, cooking demonstrations and more.


For more information, call 767-9336.

Enjoy Moonlite Bowling at Stewart Lanes

Come out and enjoy late-night bowling at Stewart Lanes Bowling Center, building 450, when we are open until 2 a.m.

The cost is just \$2.50 per game per person. Or, pay a flat fee of \$25 per person for unlimited bowling from 11 p.m. to 2 a.m. The shoe rental fee is \$1.75.

Call 767-4273 for more information.



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