

3RD ID QUALIFIER, FRIDAY

The 3rd Infantry Division will hold its Ten-Miler qualifying race, Friday. The gun will go off at 5 a.m. at the one-mile Donovan Field Track in the National Guard Training Area of Fort Stewart.

The top six runners in each of four groups

will represent 3rd ID: men's open; women's open, and men's and women's masters (age 40 and older).

To register or to learn more details about the qualifier, visit Bennett's Sports Complex, building 471, Monday-Friday, or call 767-8238.



THE FRONTLINE

SPORTS & RECREATION

JUNE 25, 2009

Swim! Bike! Run! Hunter hosts the 2nd annual Rock of the Marne Triathlon



LEFT: Competitors swim 500-yards across the Forest River in the first leg of the Rock of the Marne Triathlon, June 21.

CENTER: Biker number 203, Gabriele Hauck, finished the event second overall in the women's division with a time of 1:12:49.7

RIGHT: Commander Donna Cottrell, commanding officer, U.S. Coast Guard Air Station Savannah, finishes the 5-kilometer run, the second leg of the Rock of the Marne Triathlon. She took second place overall among the military women who competed.



Nancy Gould
Hunter Public Affairs

Athletes could hear the music's loud beat pulsating from the trail to Lotts Island as they walked toward it early Sunday morning, pushing their bikes from the Savannah Mall.

The day's first triathlon event – the 500-yard swim in the Forest River-- would begin at 8 a.m. Most of the 106 participants arrived by 7 a.m. to park their bikes, stretch, and get mentally prepared for their swim in the Forest River, the 13-mile bike race, and the 5-kilometer run – all guaranteed to test their fortitude, skill and nerve.

It was the second year that the Savannah Triathlon Team, a non-profit group of over 100 multi-sport athletes from around the greater Savannah metro region, co-sponsored the event with the Hunter Spouses'

Club.

"They wanted a private organization to support," said Amy Smedley, treasurer of the Hunter Spouses' Club. She said they also wanted to hold it at Hunter due to its self-contained location, seclusion from Savannah traffic and its proximity to the Forest River.

Smedley said that she and other club members appreciate that support, which yielded approximately \$7,000 from last year's triathlon. The club uses the funds primarily for educational grants awarded to military spouses and children who qualify.

This year's proceeds would probably be less, she said, since participation was down due to a few reasons — it fell on Father's

Day, many servicemembers are away on summervacation and 3rd Infantry Division Soldiers are off training for their deployment in the fall.

But the event's timing worked well for Savannah resident Chris Wheelan, an aquatic coach at the Savannah Jewish Education Alliance, who attended with his wife and two children. Wheelan placed first in the 500-yard swim, and his team, "Flipper, Flame and Flash," took first place in the group relay.

"I coach my kids' water sports teams," "It was neat for them to see me compete."

Doreen Vandal, a member of the Hunter Spouses' Club also had friends and Family

present who cheered for her throughout the event, including her husband, Brig. Gen. Tom Vandal, deputy commanding general for Support, 3rd Inf. Div.

"Running in the heat was tough," said Doreen, who at age 49, was a first-time triathlon competitor taking third place overall among the military women competing. "I'm sure I'll do it again, but I'm going to have to recover from this one first."

Chief Warrant Officer Jose Gomez, 1st Battalion, 3rd Aviation Regiment, Combat Aviation Brigade, was another 3rd ID member who placed third overall in the military category.

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Columbus Lion's host "Sledgehammer Night"

Spc. Ben Hutto
3rd HBCT Public Affairs

FORT BENNING, Ga. – The Columbus Lions arena football team, sponsored "Sledgehammer Night" for the Soldiers of the 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, at the Civic Center in Columbus, Ga., June 13.

Before the game, 3rd HBCT Soldiers tailgated in the Civic Center parking lot, enjoyed a free concert and interacted with the Columbus Lion's football players and cheerleaders.

"I enjoyed it," said 1st Sgt. Dobby Anderson, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Brigade Special Troops Battalion. "I really like how the whole brigade came

out and supported this. That was a big-time tailgate party.

"We had people grilling and throwing the football. The music was going. It set the tone for the whole evening."

Many Soldiers took the opportunity to branch out and spend time meeting other Soldiers outside of their units.

"It was good to get the opportunity to mess around with the other battalions and talk with some of the other sergeants major in the brigade," said Command Sgt. Maj. Dan Huell, 3rd Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment.

"That event went a long way in building team cohesion and esprit de corps in the unit," Command Sgt. Maj. Huell added.

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Community partners offer chance for green on the green

Pat Young
Fort Stewart Public Affairs

The 2009 Year of the NCO Golf Tournament sponsored by the Association of the United States Army offered an opportunity for community members to win a brand new car, cash, and other prizes, June 19 at Taylors Creek Golf Course on Fort Stewart.

The contest provided contestants a chance to earn a Dodge Challenger donated by Chrysler Liberty, or \$10,000 offered by Heritage Bank in Hinesville as part of the hole-in-one portion of the completion, which was open to the general public.

Tommie McArthur, the golf-professional and manager at Taylors Creek Golf Course explained that

the tournament consisted of 25 four-person teams playing best ball in a scramble format with teams starting at different holes.

The new Garrison Commander, Col. Kevin Milton was on-hand to greet the players and thank them for participating in the event, which was a fund raiser geared to raise funds to benefit Soldiers and Families at Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield. One of the events Coastal Empire AUSA donates to annually is the installation 10-miler team, which competes in Washington D.C., Oct. 4. In 2007, during the deployment, AUSA not only sponsored an installation team, but also sponsored a spouse's team, that traveled to Washington D.C. to demonstrate support for deployed Soldiers.

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CAB Soldiers volunteer to coach little league

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Josh Musiol, son of Lt. Col. Mike Musiol, commander of 1/3 Combat Avn. Regt., throws a pitch during the Hunter Athletics' game against the Island YMCA, June 13, at Hunter Army Airfield.



Specialist Thomas Bullock (left), HHC, CAB, plays catcher while helping to coach the Hunter Athletics a little league team at Hunter Army Airfield, June 7.

Photos by Spc. Monica K. Smith

CAB Soldiers volunteer to coach little league

Spc. Monica K. Smith
CAB Public Affairs

Sweat trickled from his brow as he stared down his enemy. He had beaten his opponent twice before and just needed to bring the heat one more time. He positioned himself, gave a reassuring glance at a teammate and then delivered a pitch.

"Strike three," announced the ref. The opponent knew he was beaten and returned to the dugout.

It was the final game for the Hunter Athletics, a little league team from Hunter Army Airfield. The game took place on Hunter, June 13 against the Island YMCA with Chief Warrant Officer Kevin Randolph volunteering his time to be the Hunter Athletics' coach.

"I can remember when I played as a kid and how much fun I had, and I wanted to create that experience here with these kids, especially my kid," said Chief Warrant Officer Randolph, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division. "It takes a little bit of commitment but it's not as time consuming as you think. In the past,

I would come out and watch my kid practice, and I decided to get out there and be a part of it."

During the season other members from Chief Warrant Officer Randolph's company came to aid in coaching. Sergeant Billy Winson and Spc. Thomas Bullock assisted by training the team's pitchers on proper pitching techniques, in addition to coaching hitting and throwing techniques.

"I enjoy teaching," said Sgt. Winson. "It's kind of like having Soldiers and watching them evolve and learn. I have things to teach, and I watch them put it into use and become better at what they're doing."

The final game ended with a 2-2 tie. However, Chief Warrant Officer Randolph said his primary goal was not winning but about teaching his team to enjoy the game.

"My biggest point to these kids was not to get wrapped up in the score but to come out and have fun," said Chief Warrant Officer Randolph. "They got to work on getting better, concentrated on working harder and building for next year. The goal was to have fun while progressing."

The learning wasn't all one-sided though. By serving

as a coach, Chief Warrant Officer Randolph also learned a few lessons himself.

"I learned to be patient a little more," said Chief Warrant Officer Randolph. "Sometimes, I could feel myself pushing the kids after an error, but I had to relax. I was here telling these kids to have fun, and I had to remember to go out there and have fun also."

At the end of the season, the Hunter Athletics had a record of four wins and two losses. Chief Warrant Officer Randolph encourages other Soldiers to consider volunteering their time to help mentor kids, whether it be coaching or tutoring.

"It makes a difference to the kids just helping a little bit," said Chief Warrant Officer Randolph. "It's all volunteer and sometimes it does get frustrating, but the reward of seeing how they progressed and to see the times they are having fun makes it worth it."

"I had fun being around the kids," said Sgt. Winson. "I'm not really a kid person usually, but I had free time and I enjoyed being around them and mentoring them. It is good practice for when my kid grows up and plays ball and starts his baseball career."

LIONS

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During the game, 3rd HBCT Soldiers and their Families supported the Lions as they defeated the Fayetteville Guard from North Carolina. Before the game, John Hargrove, the managing partner of the Lions, presented Col. Pete Jones, brigade commander, with a banner commemorating the evening. Hargrove also offered words of support to the brigade Soldiers.

Various Soldiers of the 3rd HBCT participated in events throughout the game, including singing the national anthem, playing exhibition games during game breaks, a reenlistment ceremony during half time, and

various videos highlighting the brigade's last deployment. Four Sledgehammer Soldiers also reenlisted during halftime before eight Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, repelled from the rafters down to the field.

After each event, the people of Columbus showed their support to the participating Soldiers by giving them round after round of applause.

"The event was a great team building event, not just for us, but for the brigade and the populace of Columbus," said Huell. "The support we and our families received was tremendous."



Spc. Ben Hutto

Sergeant Steven Neal (in red), 1/10 FA, 3rd HBCT, goes up for the ball against two Soldiers from the 3/1 Cav. Regt., in a mini-game during an intermission of the Columbus Lion's game against the Fayetteville Guard, June 13, at the Civic Center in Columbus, Ga.

TRI

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Lieutenant Colonel Jose Aguilar, Hunter Army Airfield garrison commander commended all participants — servicemembers and civilians — for their hard work. Along with race organizers, Aguilar expressed gratitude for those who came to watch and support the athletes. He also praised the participation of those who had no expectation of winning.

Among those participants was Warrant Officer Jacob Allen, Headquarters and Headquarters Co., Combat Aviation Brigade.

"I'll probably come out somewhere in the middle," he said before the event, adding that he did expect to beat his 'personal best' from his last triathlon, one of three that he's participated in so far. "After doing one triathlon, I was addicted. Now I do them to push myself to improve."

Also addicted to the sport is 19-year-old Sam Metzger, the Hilton Head resident

who won the event overall with a time of one hour, four minutes and 8.1 seconds. Unlike many other area competitors, he did not compete at Lotts Island last year, but said he was pleased with the venue, especially since there were no laps.

"The breeze felt good, but it made cycling difficult," he said, adding that overall it was a good event, especially since he won.

Sixty-two year old Helen Andrew biked in the triathlon. She has competed in 15 triathlons over the last five years with teammates Margie Exley, 56, and Kathy Schaefer, 50. Their team, "Hell's Angels," took second place in this year's group relay.

"We like the excitement of competing," she said. "It helps us stay in shape and gives us some fun times together. We come here most weekends to ride because Hunter is the perfect place to bike."

For more information, visit **Team Stewart** online at
www.stewart.army.mil

share your comments at
[www.twitter.com/
3rdIDMediaTeam](http://www.twitter.com/3rdIDMediaTeam)

GREEN

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Lou Carreras, President of Coastal Empire AUSA said the organization's goal is to help make a difference for Soldiers, and providing them activities like the golf tournament and 10-mile sponsorship was only a part of that.

Among those who accepted the invitation were a number of Soldier-teams including members of Company A, 6th Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment that consisted of Capt. Paul Power, Staff Sergeant Vincent Mancuso, Sgt. Niel Kiefer, and Spc. Travis Robbins, who recently returned from Iraq.

Staff Sgt. Mancuso said it was a great opportunity to relax with friends and coworkers, while developing their golf skills.

A 20-year golfer himself, he and two other of his team members recently entered the Marne Mustang Scramble and took second.

Mancuso said the sand traps at Taylors Creek weren't as formidable as those in Iraq.

He said during their last deployment they were able to get in a little practice with a driving club and pitching wedge one of the Soldiers brought along.

Although the sand traps weren't intimidating to the 6/8 Cav. team; the

golf professional McArthur said the staff tries to keep the course competition ready with modern grounds maintenance procedures like aeration.

Taylors Creek also has golf lessons available on the first Saturday of the month (except July, where it will be the second Saturday). Classes are 8 a.m. for beginners and 9 a.m. for novice golfers.

Other programs at Taylors Creek include free golfing for children of paying parents every Sunday, and happy hours weekdays after 3 p.m., where rates are discounted.

Taylors Creek will also offer upcoming tournaments, including the Garrison Commander Scramble, Friday; the Worth Fighting For Golf Scramble, July 2; and course championship, Aug. 22.

Hunter Golf Course will hold their championship, July 25 and 26.

The team winners were Clifford Johnson, Angel Cordero, Jack Shuman and Ben Floyd. The longest drive winner was Ben Floyd and Patrick Hoffman.

Chapter President Lou Carreras and President Elect Chess Merritt said the event was a success.



Pat Young

Staff Sergeant Vincent Mancuso chips the ball onto the green as his teammates, Capt. Paul Power, Sgt. Niel Kiefer, and Spc. Travis Robbins (all from A Co., 3/68 Cav.) look on at Taylors Creek Golf Course during the 2009 Year of the NCO Golf Tournament hosted by AUSA, June 19.

They thanked participants and sponsors. Carreras said the funds generated would go a long ways in taking care of Soldiers and Families.

For more information about AUSA call Carreras at 492-0738 or, email lou2@clds.net or visit online at www.coastalempireausa.com.

CYS offers football, cheerleading activities

Child, Youth, & School Services

WHAT: Tackle Football, Cheerleading, and Fall Soccer registration

WHEN: Football and Cheerleading registration is now underway. Fall Soccer registration begins June 29. Registration ends Aug. 10, or when all slots are filled.

WHERE: Register at the Ft. Stewart CYSS, building 443, located on the corner of Gulick Ave. & Lindquist Rd. behind Corkan Pool.

Hours of operation are Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday: 8 a.m.-5 p.m., and Wednesday, 9 a.m.-6 p.m..

FOOTBALL IS OPEN TO: All current CYSS members ages 7-13. Must be age 7 and cannot be age 14 as of Aug. 1. Age divisions will be 7-8, 9-10, and 11-12 (or) 11-13. Participants age 13 (as of Aug. 1) will be placed on a waiting list and will be called in to register if there are enough to form an 11-13 on-post league.

All players will be able to participate in their age division, regardless of weight. Uniforms and equipment (except socks and cleats) will be furnished by CYSS/Youth Sports. Sports fee: \$60

CHEERLEADING IS OPENTO: All current CYSS members ages 6-13. Must be age 6 and cannot be age 14 as of Dec. 31. Age divisions will be 6-8, 9-10, and 11-13.

Uniforms (except socks) will be furnished by CYSS/Youth Sports. Sports fee: \$30

FALL SOCCER IS OPEN TO: All current CYSS members ages 4-13. Must be age 4 and cannot be age 14 as of Aug. 1. Age divisions are 4-5, 6-7, 8-9, and 10-13. Uniforms (except socks & shin guards) will be furnished by CYSS/Youth Sports. Sports fee: \$30

CURRENT INCENTIVES: Sports fee waived if one or more parents are deployed. Sports fee waived for first child and 10 percent discount for each additional child of volunteer coaches (preceding sport, only). Full price for first child, then 10 percent discount for each additional child of the same household for each sport. All incentives are subject to CYSS guidelines and restrictions.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: All participants must have a current physical on file at time of registration. All CYSS sports programs need volunteers to coach teams. If you are interested in volunteering, please visit CYSS or Jordan Youth Gym to fill out a volunteer application. All applications will be subject to background checks. For more registration information, please call CYSS at 767-2312.

For more sports information, please call the Youth Sports Office (located at Jordan Gym) at 767-4371.