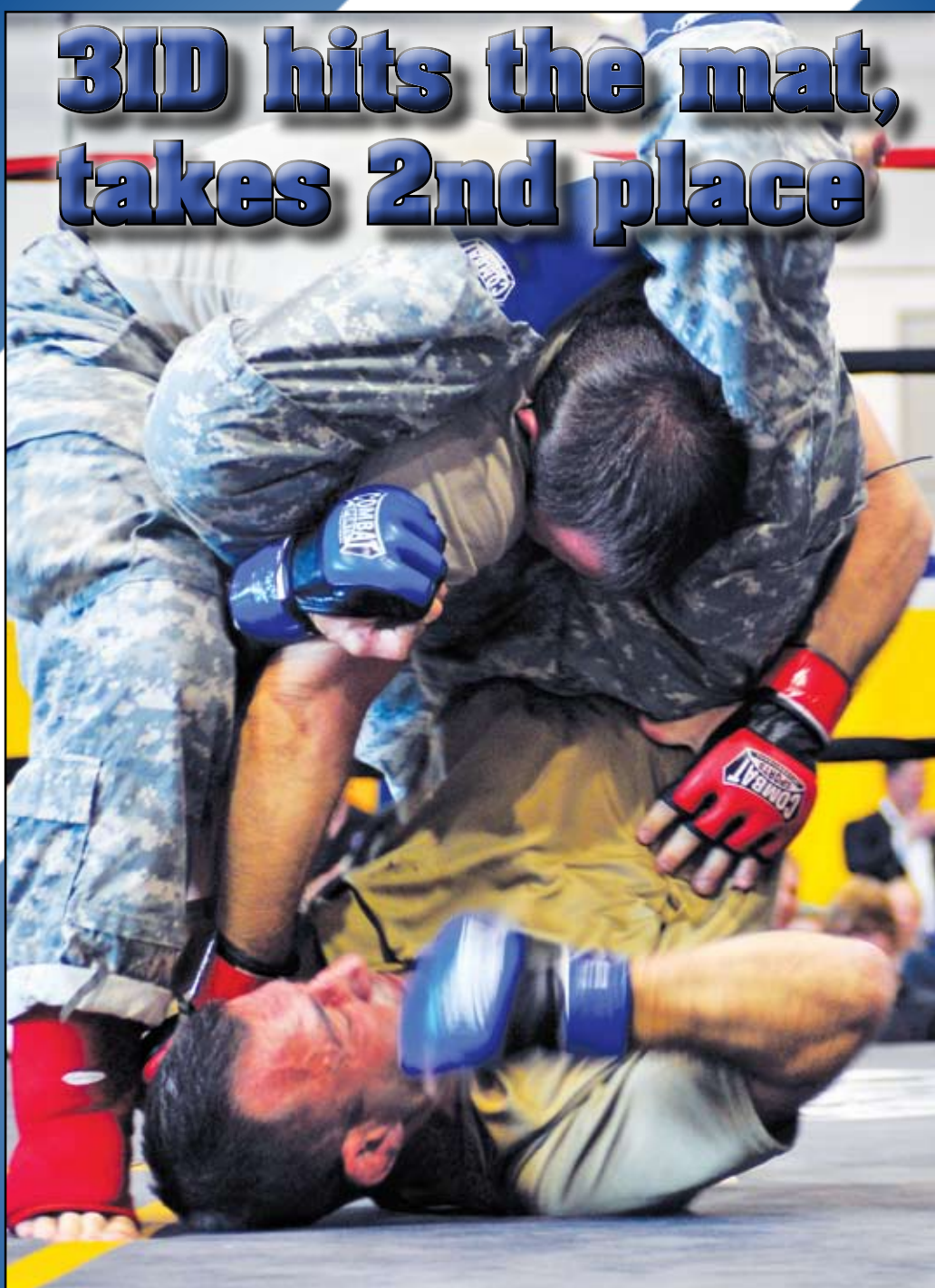




SPORTS & RECREATION

SEPTEMBER 24, 2009

31D hits the mat, takes 2nd place



Spc. Jared Eastman

Staff Sergeant Keith Bach, 1/15 Infantry, attempts to strike Cpt. Ken Steinrose, Echo Co. 3/69 Armor commander, Sep. 20 at the All-Army Combatives Tournament on Fort Benning.

Skeet competitors prove skill, have fun

Randy Murray
Fort Stewart Public Affairs

The morning air was filled with ghostly puffs of white smoke and the sweet smell of spent gun powder during this year's 50 Bird Skeet Tournament, which attracted both novice and experienced shooters to Fort Stewart's Skeet Range, Sept. 19.

According to Michael Moore, Shooting Sports Manager for Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield's Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, 31 Soldiers, Family Members or members of the Marne Club competed in the skeet competition.

Tommy Sexton demonstrated his command of the skeet range by hitting 48-of-50 clay pigeons to win the Expert "Rocky" division. Kendall Smith hit 47-of-50 birds to take a close 2nd place. One competitor, Sgt. 1st Class Frank Munley, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 69th Armor, who competed in the "Dog Face" or Intermediate division, said the competition reminded him just how out of practice he was, but that he had a great time shooting.

"I'm not ready to disclose my score," Sgt. 1st Class Munley said, grinning. "I'm only here today because of this competition; otherwise I'd be in the woods this morning. I'm a bow hunter and bow season has

already started."

Originally from Liverpool, England, Sgt. 1st Class Munley has been in the Army for 10 years has been competing in skeet competitions for five years. He said he's been a hunter too many years to remember, with a special fondness for hunting deer, wild boars, doves and turkey. The husband and father of two young boys said he has to divide his "time in the woods" with his Family, especially since he'll soon be re-deploying to Iraq for a fourth tour. Sergeant First Class Munley said he takes advantage of all the hunting, fishing and sport shoot opportunities available to Soldiers here at Fort Stewart.

Colonel Kevin Milton, Garrison commander for Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield, was another Dog Face competitor at this year's skeet tournament. Like Sgt. 1st Class Munley, Col. Milton was unwilling to disclose his score, saying only that he "didn't hurt anybody." He admitted he hadn't practiced for the competition, but said he enjoyed shooting and thought the competition was great way to promote the sport of skeet shooting to those unfamiliar with sport shooting.

Travis Kelley and Jay Smith tied for the Dog Face title with 41-of-50 hits, but during a shoot-off, Smith missed his attempt from Station 3, giving the Dog Face title to Kelley.

See SKEET _____ Page 2C

Hunting changes on Stewart-Hunter

Justin Chasin
Directorate of Public,
Fish and Wildlife Department

Fort Stewart-Hunter Army Airfield is home to a wide variety of wildlife for everyone to enjoy. For the hunting enthusiasts among us, fall is the time when our thoughts turn to the woods, and the abundant game animals we love to pursue. Whether you enjoy wing-shooting for doves and ducks, sharpshooting for wily squirrels, or bow hunting for deer and feral hogs, there is a season for you opening soon.

Though the outdoor temperatures haven't hinted at the approaching change of season, it will fast be upon us, and it is time to scout the woods, clean your weapons, check those deer stands, and ensure that all your gear is in order. As we enter into the 2009-2010 season, hunters should be aware of changes and updates that are on the horizon.

As many of you know, in 2007 Stewart-Hunter implemented an updated hunting/fishing permit

price schedule that gave a discount to all Soldiers. As of Sept. 12, military retirees and veterans receive a price reduction for hunting, fishing, and combination passes. Prices for active-duty Soldiers and all others who are buying hunting, fishing, or combination passes will remain the same.

Another change to look for will involve hunter quotas in the training areas. Currently all permit holders stand at par ("first come, first serve") when checking into training areas through the automated phone system to hunt. Once quotas are met for a given area, no one else can check into that area until someone who is currently in an area checks out. Beginning Sept. 12, 20 percent of the hunter quota for each training area is now set aside for active duty Soldiers. This change will not lower the overall quota for each area. It will, however, ensure that 20 percent of the quota will be reserved for the brave men and women who are serving our country.

See HUNT _____ Page 2C



Pfc. Erik Anderson

Players and cheerleaders from the Atlanta Falcons came to Flowery Branch, Ga, to play Guitar Hero with Soldiers from the 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division against deployed troops in Qatar and Afghanistan Sept. 15. The event was sponsored by non-profit organizations Pro vs. G.I. Joe and the USO.

3rd HBCT Soldiers play 'hero' with NFL Falcons

Pfc. Erik Anderson
3rd HBCT Public Affairs

FORT BENNING, Ga. – Players from the Atlanta Falcons took time to play video games against Soldiers representing the 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, and Soldiers currently deployed to Qatar and Afghanistan at the Falcon's training facility in Flowery Branch, Ga., Sept. 15.

The event was sponsored by "Pro vs. G.I. Joe," a non-profit support organization, and the Uniformed Services Organization in an effort to provide a fun diversion for Soldiers.

"Its professional athletes and video games, what can be better than that?" said Greg Zinone, co-founder of Pro vs. G.I. Joe.

He said it is his way of giving something to the Soldiers that do so much to protect America, citing the organizations motto; "Doin' a little for those who do a lot."

The event included Families of Soldiers

currently deployed, who were able to video chat with their Family Members after the games were over.

"It is amazing what they can do with technology now," said Pfc. Colin Wilbur, Headquarters Troop, 3rd Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 3rd HBCT, 3rd ID. "When we deploy, I hope we can do this again so I can play from Iraq."

For the Falcon's players, the day was much more than video games.

"Anytime we, as professional athletes, can show our appreciation to the military, we jump at the chance," said Atlanta Falcon's Brian Finneran.

Besides the player's autographs and Falcons merchandise, Soldiers had chances to win custom Pro vs. G.I. Joe Guitar Hero controllers.

"I know my guys had a lot of fun," said Sgt. Lance Wail, brigade fire support sergeant, 3rd HBCT. "And that is really what it's all about."

Water Spray Park season closes Sept. 30

Corkan Family Recreation Area customers: the 2009 season for "The Springs" Water Spray Park at Cypress Creek will come to a close on Sept. 30.

So, bring the children out and have some final summer fun from 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. before the closing date arrives. Thanks for a great season!

For more information, call 767-9884.



SKEET

from Page 1C



"I was shooting with my eyes instead of letting my shotgun do the shooting," said Brenda Julian the only lady competing in the Annie Oakley division. "Next year will be better."

Julian, a Marne Club member from Richmond Hill, Ga., said she has competed in lots of skeet competitions but not recently due to a back injury. She and her husband, Bill, both Navy veterans, enjoy sport shooting and appreciate the range here at Stewart.

Other competitors who took home a winner title were Reid Hadden, who hit an impressive 43-of-50 in the Bullwinkle or Youth division, and Robert Ackman, who hit 35-of-50 in the Iron Mike or Novice division. Chad Ackman took 2nd Place.

Ryan McGowan, 12, took 2nd Place in the Bullwinkle division shooting a 20 gauge shotgun. He has only been competing in sport shooting competitions for one year.

Photo by Randy Murray

Marne Club member Brenda Julian, nails a clay pigeon with her over/under 12 gauge shotgun during the 50 Bird Skeet Tournament, held at Fort Stewart's Skeet Range, Sept. 19. Julian was the only lady competing in the Annie Oakley division. Thirty-one Soldiers, Family Members and members of the Marne Club competed for a title in the Bullwinkle (Youth), Annie Oakley (Ladies), Iron Mike (Novice), Dog Face (Intermediate) and Rocky (Expert) divisions.

HUNT

from Page 1C

The date for a managed deer/hog hunt for active-duty Soldiers is now set for Oct. 17. Additional managed hunts are scheduled for Nov. 21 and Dec. 19 that will include military retirees as well as active-duty Soldiers.

Those interested in applying for these hunts can contact the Pass & Permit Office at (912) 435-8061. Applications can be downloaded at <http://www.stewart.army.mil/dpw/wildlife/Home%20page.htm>. Click on the Managed Deer Hunt link to access the application. These special hunts have been excellent opportunities in the past with high harvest rates.

In August, a deer camera survey was completed to monitor deer population trends in the Quality Deer Management Area. This is the third consecutive year that this survey has been conducted. Data such as adult sex ratios, fawn

recruitment, buck age structure, and quality of mature bucks are examples of the types of information that can be gleaned from such a survey. Although the results have not yet been finalized from the August survey, early indications are that our deer population is quite healthy and deer hunters should have a good chance to harvest some excellent bucks.

As you enjoy the great outdoors, keep your safety in mind, as well as your fellow outdoorsmen. Practice leaving no trace behind, and try to leave your hunting/fishing area better than you found it. For more information on hunting and fishing on Stewart-Hunter, please visit the following Web sites: <http://www.stewart.army.mil/dpw/wildlife/default.htm> for hunting and <http://www.stewart.army.mil/dpw/fish/default.htm> for fishing.

Soldiers fish in the deep sea



Lewis Levine

Specialist Megan Gerde, HHC, U.S. Army Garrison, proudly lifts the 40-plus pound amberjack she caught during the Soldiers Deep Sea Fishing Tournament, Sept. 19.

**Soldier Fishing Event at
Fort Stewart's Pond 30,
7 a.m., Sept. 26**

Call 767-3515 or 767-5145 for more information.

3rd ID takes second in All-Army Combatives

Spc. Jared S. Eastman
1HBCT Public Affairs

Soldiers from all over the world shook hands and locked arms during the 5th Annual All-Army Combatives Competition at Fort Benning, Ga., Sept. 18-20. Although missing three weight classes, 3rd Infantry Division placed second overall with competitors placing all over the board.

"Today, there are a little over 300 competitors here," said Maj. Gen. Michael Ferriter, commanding general of Fort Benning. "I'm reminded of 300 Spartans who fought off thousands. [These competitors] are the best of the best."

The 3rd ID had three Soldiers place in two weight classes. Staff Sergeant Keith Bach, 1st Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, 3rd Heavy Brigade Combat Team, placed third in lightweight; Sgt. Nathaniel Freeman, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Heavy Brigade Combat Team, placed second in heavyweight; and Staff Sgt. Brandon Sayles, 3rd Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, 3rd HBCT, placed first in heavyweight.

"I think the team did very well, considering we are getting ready to go to the National Training Center in about two weeks, and a lot of people have Iraq on their mind," said Sgt. 1st Class Travis Pheanis, 1st HBCT Combatives Trainer and 3rd ID coach. "Some individuals really rose to the occasion. Some guys got experience. We got second place

overall, while last year we got third. Last year we were just getting back, so maybe if we go to the combatives competition while we are deployed, that's the secret to success."

The division also learned what they would have to work on for future competitions.

"We'll be over in Iraq next year," said Staff Sgt. Bach, "That's the first fight we have to worry about, but we should spend a month and a half to two months [before the competition] to make us better, and that's what the winners did this year."

Staff Sergeant Bach faced fellow division teammate Capt. Ken Steinrose, commander of Company E, 3rd Battalion, 69th Armor Regiment, for third place.

"Going against one of my own teammates builds Warrior Ethos," said Staff Sgt. Bach, "Most of the guys I have fought outside of the Army at a professional level are some of my best friends. So to go to another Soldier on the same team [is hard but beneficial]."

The two competitors for first and second place in the heavyweight class were also from 3rd Infantry Division.

"Freeman was a tough opponent," said Staff Sgt. Sayles, who also took first in the heavyweight class in 2006 and 2008. "He trained a lot with the guys at Fort Stewart, so I knew he had a really good game plan coming in. I try to be open-minded walking into a fight and react based upon what happens."

The combatives competition was

host to a wide range of ranks, showing the diversity of the Army's combatives program. Seven female Soldiers also participated in the competition.

"It's great that there were colonels as well as specialists out here," said Sgt. 1st Class Pheanis. "There are a lot of senior officers and enlisted who are adverse to doing combatives because they're scared about someone getting hurt. Someone can get hurt playing flag football or softball, but does that let the Soldier gain anything as far as military knowledge? I think combatives helps in the long run, because if a weapon breaks down you still have to complete the mission."

Although rank varied greatly in the competition, so did age and experience. Soldiers from all levels of combatives participated in the competition.

"The best thing to do when you are just starting combatives is to keep training," said Staff Sgt. Bach. "When you hit that wall, train through it. When it starts to get tough, you'll see a lot of guys hating it. It's also important to respect your instructors; there are a lot of colonels, sergeants major and first sergeants that are teaching combatives."

Another reason combatives is important to the average Soldier is because of its applications in warfare. Basic knowledge in hand-to-hand combat is a must for any Soldier.

"Stick with it. Some people often say 'this is stupid' because they get submitted all the time," said Sgt. 1st Class

Pheanis. "If you stick with it, it's going to start clicking in your head. I was halfway through level three combatives when I finally realized, 'wow, this actually works.' A lot of older military members will say, 'I'll always have a weapon' but when that weapon goes down, there's always hand to hand."

Combatives further benefits the Soldier in discipline and physical fitness, two more necessities to a successful Soldiers ethos.

"It takes a lot of discipline for combatives," said Sgt. 1st Class Pheanis. "When you have someone of equal strength and equal size pressing down on you, and you're breathing hard and you're trying to think, it takes a lot of discipline. There's always something you can improve on in combatives. You could be a gym rat and lift weights all day long, but the core muscle involvement for combatives is an entirely different workout. You have to be very well-rounded and do crossfit and cross-training as well as the everyday Army stuff."

Although the division was not the best in the competition, they prevailed through multiple obstacles such as training for deployment, personal preparation for NTC (National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif.) and hours spent away from Family and friends to practice. Without the support of the division's Soldiers from private to commander, the team would not only have failed to place but failed to compete at all, he said.

416th Trans Co holds second combatives tourney

Spc. Gaelen Lowers
3rd Sustainment Bde. Public Affairs

The Soldiers of the 416th Transportation Company, 260th Quartermaster Battalion, 3rd Sustainment Brigade lived up to their motto of "No slack!" when they held their second combatives tournament within the past six months, Sept. 17.

"We're in the 'walk phase' right now," said Capt. Terrence McGee, 416th Trans. Co. commander. "This is excellent training for the Soldiers. I am incorporating this training because it boosts Soldiers' confidence in preparation for possible future deployments. This also not only helps them establish a good rapport with their fellow Soldiers, but also helps them face tough times and adversity with a little more confidence on and off duty."

The three-day combatives training culminated

with a company combatives tournament in order to boost some healthy competition within the platoons, develop esprit de corps and promote warrior ethos, said Capt. McGee.

There were four weight classes: 160 pounds and below, 161-179 pounds, 180-204 pounds, and 205-heavy weight.

Specialist Christian Roberts, a semi-finalist in the 180-204-pound weight class, was excited about the level of competition and the incentives that come along with winning.

"The winner in each weight class gets a four-day pass," he said. "This really is a big morale booster and excellent training."

Captain McGee said that there would also be some bragging rights awarded to the winning Soldiers, and that they would post some fun stats in the company area.

He added that his company led the way in this training, and that his Level 3 combatives instructors would be squaring away their sister companies within the battalion during the first week of October.



Spc. Gaelen Lowers

Sergeant Joseph Suto, 416th Trans Co., 260th QM Bn., 3rd Sustainment Bde., prepares to tap out Spc. Jerry Goss, also with the 416th Trans. Co., during the unit's combatives tournament in the 161-179 lbs. weight class, Sept. 17.

And the winners are...

160 lbs. and below:	Spc. Bobby Slovick
161 - 179 lbs.:	Sgt. Joseph Suto
180 - 204 lbs.:	Spc. Henry Gundacker
205 lbs. - heavyweight:	Sgt. Marlin Broaster