

Sports

Stewart-Hunter Soldiers, civilians scramble for the green at Taylors Creek Golf Course



Pat Young
Frontline Staff

Twenty teams joined the staff June 29 at Taylors Creek Golf Course for a morning of friendly competition at the Garrison Commander's Scramble.

The tournament was a blue and white style best ball scramble where players formed teams of three or four and started at various points around the course.

The tournament allowed the first team member to hit the ball twice, with play continuing using the best ball. The second chance would then rotate to the next team member as the team gets closer to the hole.

The blue white theme had the teams teeing off from the blue pins on odd holes, and white for the even ones.

The variations were meant to challenge the team and allow for better competition. In addition to the game format, regular players at the course would notice a few improvements at the course with landscaping and hole placement.

Some of the participants of this month's scramble were new to the golf experience including Capt. Daren Jaques, who works with his teammates at the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate at Fort Stewart.

Jaques, a natural, found himself picking up many some of the favorable habits that many train to develop.

Pat Young

Capt. Matt Thornton digs in and eats up the fairways during the Garrison Commander's Golf Scramble, June 29.

"It's fun," Jaques said. "The fact that I'm hitting the ball straight, although not far, is pretty fun."

Jaques team mates, added he's picked more up than the swing.

"He's even starting to spot the good tees left on the ground," said Capt. Matt Thornton. "But he is doing great and hitting the ball straight."

Taylors Creek Golf professional and manager, Tommie McArthur thinks more people would enjoy the course if they tried it.

"We invite all retirees, veterans, and civilians to come and enjoy the new improvements at the golf course," McArthur said. "With the new changes to post-access, it will be easier to come out and have a good time."

The course also has special golf packages for Soldiers returning from deployment on pass.

"A Freedom Pass is now available at Taylors Creek Golf Course and Hunter Golf Club," McArthur said. "It is an all-inclusive program designed specifically for our heroes who are home for rest and relaxation. The program has one price to cover green fees, cart fees and range balls for the duration of their leave."

The cost of the package is a one-time fee of \$150, and allows the Soldier on leave from deployment to play as much golf as he or she wants at either club.

Editor's Note: The results of the tournament were not in at the time the article was submitted.

New Orleans cheerleaders visit Soldiers at FOB Hammer

Spc. Ben Hutto
3rd HBCT Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE HAMMER, Iraq -- The New Orleans Saints cheerleading squad visited Forward Operating Base Hammer, June 23, to thank 3rd Brigade Combat Team Soldiers.

FOB Hammer was the 12th stop for the cheerleaders on a tour of various bases in Iraq.

"It's absolutely unbelievable," said Tori Nunez, a cheerleader with the squad. "Being in America, you get a very different viewpoint of how things are out here. It has been amazing to hear what the Soldiers are doing. We are very excited to go back and tell everyone all the good things we've seen."

The cheerleaders signed autographs and talked with the 3rd BCT Soldiers. Lt. Col. Ryan J. Kuhn, the

3rd BCT deputy commander, presented a certificate of appreciation to the squad.

"They did a wonderful job of lifting morale of the Soldiers," said Spc. Coty Lowe, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 203rd Brigade Support Battalion. "They were all very down to earth and friendly."

For many of the cheerleaders this tour to Iraq was another way to say thanks.

"Of course, we want to thank all of the Soldiers that are out here, but it really meant a lot to us to meet the Soldiers that came down to New Orleans to help with the aftermath left after Katrina," explained Nunez.

"It was great to meet them and get to thank them personally. This was our small way of returning the favor for all they did for us."

Spc. Ben Hutto

The New Orleans Saints cheerleaders enjoy lunch at the Forward Operating Base Hammer dining facility June 24 before receiving a certificate of appreciation from the 3rd Brigade Combat Team.



Tim Hipps

Tiger Woods, seen here making his professional debut in the U.S. Open at Bethesda, Md.'s Congressional Country Club in 1997, will honor Soldiers and military Families July 4 at the inaugural Earl Woods Memorial Pro-Am Tournament, part of the AT&T National PGA Tour event, scheduled for July 3-8 at Congressional Country Club.

Tiger to honor Soldiers and Families at Earl Woods Memorial, AT&T National

Tim Hipps
FMWRC Public Affairs

ALEXANDRIA, Va. -- Tiger Woods will honor Soldiers and military Families July 4 at the inaugural Earl Woods Memorial Pro-Am Tournament, part of the AT&T National PGA Tour event, scheduled for July 3-8 at Congressional Country Club in Bethesda, Md.

Woods donated 30,000 free tickets for the tournament to military personnel, who will be treated to special seating behind the greens and hospitality tents.

"It's very important to me that this tournament honor the men and women who serve in our armed forces," Woods said. "They put their lives on the line so that we are able to enjoy our freedom, and we'd love for them to come out and enjoy a few days of relaxation. Our intent is to honor and really thank the people that protect us."

Woods even extended a playing date to a Soldier: Sgt. Maj. Mia Kelly of the 1st Information Operations Command at Fort Belvoir, Va. She will tee off with Woods at 6:30 a.m. on the No. 1 hole on Congressional CC's blue course. Air Force Master Sgt. Andy Amor of Andrews Air Force Base and AT&T Chairman Randall Stephenson will complete the foursome.

"I think this is one of the most exciting things ever -- it's almost like winning the Powerball of golf," Kelly said. The quartet will be joined on the 15th or 16th hole by former President George H.W. Bush, who will accompany them for the remainder of the round.

Sixty Soldiers from Fort Belvoir will unveil a large American flag inside the ropes on the No. 1 fairway to the tune of "God Bless America." Four hundred U.S. flags also will be distributed to spectators surrounding the tee box, while an Air Force drill team performs and a Navy band plays patriotic songs.

Spc. Vicki Golding, the Army Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation Command's 2006 Military Idol

winner, will sing the national anthem at 11:26 a.m., followed by a flyover by the Army's elite Blackhawk Helicopter Wing.

Wounded warriors from Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington and National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md., will be acknowledged by tournament officials and dignitaries.

At 11:38 a.m., Woods will offer a golf tip to former President Bush, who -- following a drum roll -- will launch the honorary first shot of the tournament.

"Tiger's doing this in honor of his father, who was a Vietnam veteran," Fort Belvoir Golf Club General Manager Peter Cizdziel said.

"I think it will be beyond words," added Kelly, who was born in South Korea in 1965 and adopted in 1970. She immigrated to the United States in 1974 and attained U.S. citizenship 10 years later. She joined the U.S. Army in 1983 and has deployed five times; to include Panama, Afghanistan and Iraq.

Kelly, who holds a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from the University of Maryland, began playing golf in 2004. She is a member of Fort Belvoir Golf Club, where she plays several times per week.

"I would rather play golf than do almost anything else," said Kelly, who has an 11 handicap. "It's an absolute passion," said Kelly, who has an 11 handicap.

Sgt. Timothy Smith, who works for the Joint Personal Property Shipping Office at Fort Belvoir, is scheduled to serve as Kelly's caddie during the Pro-Am.

Complimentary tickets for active-duty military personnel to attend the second round of the AT&T National on July 6 are still available on a first-come, first-served basis at the Pentagon's IIT/ITR Ticket Office. A limited number of tickets also are available for purchase at the IIT/ITR office for \$20 to attend daily play Tuesday through Friday or \$25 for the final two rounds of the tournament.

Bradwell senior named All-Region

Jimmy Currier
Coastal Courier

Bradwell Institute senior right fielder Nick Franks was named to the Region 3-AAAAA Coaches All-Region first team.

Franks, who also pitched and played first base was the Tigers' lone senior and batted better than .480 at the plate.

"It feels pretty good to be recognized after four years of playing Bradwell baseball," Franks said. "Seeing I had success and have something to show for that means a lot to me."

BI coach Rhett Hellgren is proud of Franks.

"I'm extremely proud. He's such a great kid," Hellgren said. "He never gave me a problem. He's always 'yes sir, no sir' and you love to have kids like him."

Franks was the Tiger's leading hitter and came through in the clutch several times.

Hellgren fondly recounted the time Franks tied a game against Jenkins in the sixth inning with a three-run homer.

"He was real important. He came every day with a good attitude and a real hard work ethic," Hellgren said. "Today's kids aren't as apt to coming to work every day as he was."

Franks enjoyed playing for Hellgren in his senior season.

"I'd like to thank Coach Hellgren for allowing me the opportunity to excel," Franks said. "He gave me a lot of opportunities throughout the season and I capitalized on them."

Franks not only excelled on the diamond, but also in the classroom.

He graduated with honors in May and is headed to the University of Georgia, where he will have the opportunity to walk onto the Bulldog baseball squad.

Franks went to college orientation last week and spoke with

UGA baseball coach David Perno about trying out for the team.

"He said they had eight players who got drafted and depending on how many of them sign and if there is space available, that he would be interested in trying me out," Franks said. "I have a good chance."

That's all Franks wants is a chance to showcase his skills with the bat. This season he nearly always put the ball in play, striking out only four times.

"I'd just like to have the chance to prove it," he said. "When I watch college teams play and the teams bat, I think I can play at that level. It's all about getting that opportunity."

Whether he plays baseball, Hellgren is certain Franks will be successful in life.

"He will be successful in anything he chooses to do," Hellgren said. "He's a hard worker. I'm going to miss him and our team's going to miss him. He was our only senior this year and he's a great leader."

Franks' teammate, Daniel Materne, received an honorable mention on the All-Region team. The rising senior, who also plays basketball, did a fine job playing centerfield for the Tigers. He batted better than .350.

"He came through and really turned it on," Hellgren said. "He's a super kid and he always came out and did what he was supposed to do."

Surprisingly, the last time Materne played competitive baseball, he was in the fifth grade.

Camden County's Steven Voight and Jenkins' Matt Oglesby were named co-Players of the Year.

Region champ Camden County's coach Jay Lasley was voted Coach of the Year.



Jimmy Currier

Nick Franks swings for the fences in a game earlier this season for the Tigers. He was named to the All-region team.

Liberty County All-star baseball season ends

Jimmy Currier
Coastal Courier

The Liberty County Recreation Department's All-star baseball season is complete.

The Mite, Midget and Junior teams lost

June 26 in their respective elimination brackets in the Georgia Recreation and Parks Association's District 2 tournament in Waycross.

The Mites started the tournament with a 14-2 loss to Douglas Blue on June 25. The following morning, LC defeated Brunswick

16-3, but lost later in the day, 9-4 to Ware County.

The Midgets also started the tournament on a bad note, losing 15-1 to Wayne County Monday. Tuesday, they lost 8-0 to Glynn County.

The Juniors started out hot, defeating

Camden County 9-5 on Monday. However, the bats cooled later in the day, losing 12-0 to Douglas Blue. The next day, Glynn County eliminated LC 7-2.

In softball action both the Juniors and Seniors were eliminated in their district tournaments in Brunswick.

Scouts take aim at having fun at Stewart-Hunter

Pat Young
Frontline Staff

Developing the character of young men since 1910, the Boy Scouts of America teach of leadership, outdoor skills, patriotism and community service.

Troop 8 at Hunter Army Airfield continues to carry on that tradition and recently participated in a local camp.

"Boy Scouting is an activity, which is beneficial to any child," said Troop 8 Scoutmaster John Petrillo. "It teaches good life lessons and builds strong character."

Twenty-six Boy Scouts, ages 10 to 17, camped at Rainey Mountain, east of Clayton, Ga., June 9 - 16, to have fun and to improve the skills to earn badges that will advance them up the rank ladder.

Troop 8 was formed at Hunter Army Airfield in February with only five scouts but has grown to 26 members, who accompanied Petrillo and two other adults to camp. Scouts participated in events such as archery, rifle shooting, cooking, metal work, lifesaving and more.

"I'm sure it was a week the boy and adults will never forget," Petrillo said.

Petrillo said the troop recently helped out at the opening ceremony at the Vietnam traveling memorial "The Wall that Heals" June 22 and the Walk to Iraq and Back. They plan on helping at the Special Olympics July 22.

Petrillo invites community members who are interested in scouting to call him at 547-1699 or the scouting committee chairman, Carl Lewis at 547-3884.

The next troop event will be bowling at 4 p.m. July 15 at Hunter Lanes.

At Fort Stewart, Boy Scout Troop 454 is looking for scouts ages 10 1/2 - 18. For more information about the Stewart group, contact the scoutmaster Michelle Burkcart at 469-5589.



Photos by John Petrillo

Boy Scouts with Troop 8 from Hunter Army Airfield practice archery to earn a merit badge while on a camping trip to Rainey Mountain, Ga.



Scouts from Troop 8 gather for a briefing while camping at Rainey Mountain, Ga.



Vernon Fater, Oliver Caesar, Avery Morrison, Riley Morrison, and Mike Morrison practice their "Scout Rap" for the June 13 night campfire at Rainey Mountain, GA.

Army marksmen take aim at national championships

GoArmySports.Com

COLUMBUS, Ga. – Army rifle stars Chris Abalo and Wesley Hess turned in strong performances June 22-24 at the 2007 USA Shooting National Championships held at Fort Benning's International Shooting Complex.

Abalo and Hess were two of three collegiate shooters among eight qualifiers in a field of 76 shooters that advanced to the finals in Men's Air Rifle with the top four earning berths on the USA National Team.

Abalo fired the top collegiate score of 1173 heading into the 10-shot final to rank fifth. It was the second time that the rising senior earned the distinction of being the top collegian shooter at the championships, duplicating his performance three days earlier in smallbore prone. He went on to earn a spot on the national team following a third-place finish (1292.1).

The native of Glendora, Calif., shined in the air rifle competition as well with his highest score of 591 just two points off the

top mark fired in the event. He fell out of contender status after firing a 99.3 for a final score of 1272.9 to place eighth.

Hess bested his teammate in the shoot-off with a 100.7 to finish sixth with a score of 1273.7. The rising junior posted marks of 587 and 586 to head in the finals in sixth place with an 1173. Ryan Tanoue won the national title with a score of 1284.0. Jason Parker, a member of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit was second with a 1281.5 and Matthew Rawlings took third (1279.0).

"It was tremendous to have two members of our squad in the running for the USA National Team," commented head coach Ron Wigger. "They held their own against members of the Army Marksmanship Unit and Senior National Team. They performed well in order to make the finals, but unfortunately came up short."

The Black Knights, who captured the silver at the 2007 NCAA Championships, usher in the 2007-08 campaign with Akron on October 13.



Courtesy Photo

Wesley Hess finished sixth at the USA Shooting National Championships with a score of 1273.7.

CYS football and cheerleading signup starts at Stewart-Hunter

Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield Child and Youth Services announces applications for football and cheerleading registration July 2 through Aug. 10. Applications will be accepted 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, and till 6 p.m. on Wednesday. Bring the registration to the CYC at the corner of Gulick Avenue and Linquist behind Corkan pool.

Football season is open to members of Youth Services ages 7-13. Each participant must be between 7 and 14 as of September 1.

The age divisions are 7-8, 9-10, and 11-12 (or) 11-13. Participants age 13 (as of Sep. 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.

Cheerleading is open to members of Youth Services ages 6-13.

Children must be at least age 6 and cannot be age 14 as of December 31, 2007. Volunteer coaches are needed. For more information, call Stewart CYC at 767-2312.