The Olympic dream. A fantasy for most Americans, but reality for one Oregon Army National Guardsman.

“It’s a surreal experience the day you make the team because you’re thinking about so many different things,” Spc. Dan Steele, Oregon Army National Guardsman and bronze Olympian, said. “You’re thinking about the road you took to get here and everything that you dream about and then you start thinking about the games right away.”

Steele, a member of HHC, 2-162 Infantry, joined the Oregon Guard in February 1997. His twin brother, Darrin, enlisted into the Illinois National Guard in 1987, and planted the citizen-soldier seed. Dan joined the Guard and the bobsled team at the same time. He had moved to Oregon to pursue track and field full time.

Steele was recruited for bobsled from the track and field finals. He participates in the four-man bobsled, and is the team’s brake-man.

Steele, 32, competed in the 1998 Winter Games at Nagano, Japan, and replaced Shimer’s previous brake-man, who suffered a back injury, about three weeks before the Olympic trials that were held in late December.

Steele’s Olympics goal was to win a medal.

“I don’t want to look back and think I missed something to give,” Steele said. “A medal is a good way to go out and retire. As long as we give our all, I’ll be satisfied.”

Steele has no intentions of continuing with bobsled, but “I don’t know what opportunities will present themselves,” he said.

In 2001, Steele was the assistant track and field coach at the University of Oregon. His position at the U of O is one step closer to his career goal to be a head track and field coach for a major university.

“I love the Eugene community, and the way it embraces athletes. It’s a great setting to be an athlete and coach,” Steele said.

Spotlight on Steele

Height: 6-2
Weight: 220
Birthdate: March 20, 1969
Birthplace: Moline, Ill.
Hometown: Rock Island, Ill.
School: Eastern Illinois University
Olympics: Member of the 1998 Olympic team in Nagano, Japan
Placed fifth in decathlon in 2000
US Olympic track and field trials
Sports history: Took eighth in IAAF World Championships in decathlon in 1999
1999 Pan-Am Games silver medalist in decathlon
Placed third in the 1999 US National Championships
Ranked third in the US in decathlon in 1999
Holds USA sibling point record in decathlon with twin brother, Darrin
Ranked fifth in US and 25th in world in decathlon in 1995
1992 NCAA-I champion in 400m hurdles
Two-time NCAA-I all-American
Nine-time Mid-Continent Conference champion
2001 assistant track and field coach at University of Oregon
2002 inductee to Eastern Illinois University hall of fame
2002 Olympics four-man bronze medalist with driver Brian Shimer
Qualified for the 2002 Olympic team, finishing first in four-man bobsled at trials

Volunteers from the Oregon National Guard deployed to Utah in support of the 2002 Winter Olympic Games. Approximately 130 soldiers from the Oregon Army National Guard were deployed to Camp Williams, Utah, and returned to Oregon on Feb. 28, 2002.

Maj. Jason Schwabel was the Task Force Oregon commander.

The soldiers provided three primary security services: vehicle screening; personnel and bag searches; and perimeter security. Their area of concern was “E” Center at the Peaks Ice Arena, Utah Olympic Oval, which will house the ice hockey and figure skating competitions.

Volunteers for this mission were soldiers from the Regional Training Institute in Monmouth, 3rd Battalion, 116th Cavalry; headquartered in LaGrande; the 1042 Medical Company (Air Ambulance) from Salem; Headquarters STARC from Salem; the 82nd Rear Operations Cell from Lake Oswego; the 82nd Cavalry headquartered in Bend; the 141 Support Battalion from Portland; the 102 Civil Support Team from Salem; the 641st Medical Battalion of Salem; the 741 Corps Support Battalion from Clackamas; the 124th Engineer Battalion headquartered in Salem; and the 234th Army Band of Portland.

Their Air Guard counterparts, from the 272nd and 244th Combat Communications Squadrons, provided radio communications support as part of a security effort to improve communica-tions during the two-week event.

The airmen filled four key command and control positions at the joint operations center at the Utah National Guard headquarters. They provided communications support and were responsible for operating tactical satellite radio equipment, and programming and monitoring land mobile radios.

Oregon was one of 22 states that deployed National Guard members to the Salt Lake City region in support of a national security effort to ensure spectators, athletes, and employees at the games are as safe and secure as possible.

The Guard members worked alongside Navy, Marines, Army, and Air Force personnel at the JOC.

Approximately 5,000 active duty and Guard personnel from across the nation provided support during the Olympics.
The current campaign to suppress terrorism throughout the world continues to affect the operational tempo of all our forces.

The recent ground action in Afghanistan is merely the tip of the iceberg. Our national command authority is posturing our armed forces to respond to a wide range of contingencies.

At the same time, the office of homeland security is developing plans and procedures designed to improve the security of all our nation’s citizens where they work and live.

These are challenging times, and it will take a team effort to prevail over those who wish us harm.

The men and women who serve the Oregon National Guard are making a significant contribution to the maintenance of a peaceful environment.

Read about our 241st Military Intelligence Company returned from a very successful rotation in Bosnia.

Since Sept. 11, the Oregon Air Guard has mobilized over 400 members in support of Operation Noble Eagle from the 142nd Fighter Wing, the 116th Air Control Squadron, the 270th Air Control Squadron, and numerous volunteers from other units.

We are preparing 529 Army Guard soldiers to deploy as a task force with the 1st Battalion, 186th Infantry to the Sinai for a six-month peace enforcement rotation.

We just received an alert notification to prepare 20-30 members and three blackhawk helicopters from the 102nd Air Ambulance Company for a one-year mobilization in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

With all of this unfolded, we deployed and redeployed 141 soldiers for security missions at the Winter Olympics in Utah, and 75 members of the Guard have maintained security at Oregon’s airports.

The Oregon National Guard have maintained security at the 1st Battalion, 186th Infantry to the Sinai for a six-month peace enforcement rotation.

We will face it together and find a way of maintaining the highest quality of service to the state and the nation.

These are certainly turbulent times, which produce numerous inconveniences and distractions.

When you feel the pressure, take a little time to celebrate the many successes you have enjoyed over the past few years.

We are recognized as one of the best organizations in the nation, and we have a right to feel good about that.

Keep striving for excellence, and maintain a strong pride in the quality force within which you serve.

The Oregon Military Department

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Kinsley honored by University of Oregon

Education Alumni Association annually honors outstanding individuals and organizations from around the state.

On March 20, Chief Ronald Kinsley was honored by the alumni association for being a signifiant advocate and coordinator for the Three Course Challenge, a cross-country track event hosted each September by students at Seaside High School.

For more than 13 years, Kinsley has helped with the housing of the students at Camp Rilea, setting up the course, and coordinating the logistics needed at Rilea to support the event.

The Three Course Challenge is a premier running event which draws more than 1,000 participants from high schools across the nation.

The awards program was held at the McMenamins Grand Lodge in Forest Grove.

Doolittle Raiders and Pendleton Air Museum stage memorial air show and big band ball

The Pendleton Air Museum and the Oregon National Guard invite you to the Doolittle Raiders Memorial Airshow and “Bombs Away!” big band ball on May 4th at the Eastern Oregon Regional Airport, Pendleton.

The airshow on Saturday, May 4, 2002, from noon until 4 p.m., will present dozens of Warbirds, including a commemorative B-25, static displays and flybys of classic and modern military aircraft, civilian aerial performers, a mass parachute drop by the US Army Rangers, World War II reenactors, and ground exhibits of vehicles and equipment.

The museum foundation is asking a $5 donation to help defray the costs of the inaugural show.

Some of the highlights will include about 30 WWII and vintage warbirds from the Cascade Warbirds EAA squadron.

Featured will be Jim Morgan’s B-25 medium bomber from Salem, Ore., similar to the aircraft used by the Doolittle Raiders. Crash Williams will also feature his Avenger, and numerous other antique aircraft will attend the show for flying and static demonstration.

The Thunder Blues Aerobatic team will provide acrobatic demonstrations.

Helicopters currently being used in the Afghanistan conflict will be on display, including a Chinook heavy lift, Blackhawk assault, and Apache attack types.

Panzer grenadiers and paratroopers will invade Pendleton in the form of WWII reenactors from the Northwest Historical Association portraying Allied flyers, paratroopers and German panzer grenadiers. They will bring Jeeps and light armored vehicles to the event.

Other displays will include an M1 Abrams tank, an M3 Bradley armored fighting vehicle, and vintage military equipment owned by the historical association reenactors.

From 7 p.m. to midnight, the “Bombs Away!” big band ball will be held in the National Guard hangar.

A 20-piece swing band and two singers will provide live music.

Attendees are encouraged to wear WWII uniforms and civilian attire, or contemporary semi-formal dress.

The evening will feature exhibits of period artifacts and decorations, refreshments and hors d’oeuvres, a silent auction, door prizes, political and military dignitaries, color guard, and a salute to WWII veterans.

The scheduled guest of honor is Jacob DeBhaer, 89, a Doolittle Raider who survived 40 months in Japan but returned as an evangelist. DeBhaer is from Salem.

The 60th Doolittle reunion will be held in Columbia, S.C., on April 20, 2003, for the remaining Raiders.

Tickets for the ball are $25 ($20 tax-deductible) at Pendleton and Northeast Oregon outlets or by phone. Please contact the Pendleton Chamber of Commerce at (541) 276-7411.

New intranet site provides agency-wide information to all employees

It’s new.

It’s easy to use.

It’s information you need.

It’s in all one place.

It’s coming to a desktop near you.

The Oregon National Guard is developing a new web site to combine state, Army and Air information in one place.

According to Kim Bennett, webmaster for the new design, the site will provide units, headquarters, and state employees with a customizable intranet resource.

It will offer-up-to-date information, consistent design, search capabilities, and a document library.

The library will be home for applications and forms, which will reduce paperwork.

Each office and armory will have its own page, where staff can upload training schedules and other information to share with the rest of the agency.

The page will become the default web site on agency computer systems.

The information provided on the desktop will be customizable, and state employees and Guard members will be able to search for information such as job functions and traditional-soldier issues.

Each unit will be assigned a point of contact for page design. Points of contact will be determined and published soon.

Training on the features and use of the new site will also be provided.

The web designers are also working on providing traditional soldiers with access from their home computers.

“The site should be up within the next couple of months,” Bennett said.

ESGR award presented to Guard employer

Lt. Col. Bill Schutz, battalion commander for the 1249th Engineer Battalion, presents a “My Boss is a Patriot” award to Randy Hill, owner of Randy Hill Trucking, Inc., in Albany.

Hill’s Guard employee, Spc. James Taylor, HHC/1249th Engineers, nominated his boss for the ESGR award.

Taylor recommended Hill for the award because:

- “With my job as an interstate truck driver, (Hill) has gone out of his way to get me home for drills, either by working me locally, (giving me) short runs, or bringing me empty up to 500 miles.

- If your boss is a patriot, ask your unit commander for a nomination form.

Why diversity? To value uniqueness

Diversity means valuing people’s uniqueness rather than simply “counting heads,” while the former is a program that looks at the ways people differ.

Diversity means valuing people’s uniqueness rather than simply “counting heads.”

What is diversity? Isn’t it really just equal opportunity?

Diversity is different from equal opportunity because the latter is a law that counts heads, while the former is a program that looks at the ways people differ.

Diversity means valuing people’s uniqueness rather than simply “counting heads.”

With the National Guard Bureau proclaiming 2002 as the “Year of Diversity,” you will be hearing more and more about the subject. Maj. Gen. Alexander Burgin, the adjutant general, has formed a diversity council to meet the needs of National Guard members throughout the state.

The council’s mission is to incorporate diversity into a strategic plan to establish and accomplish specific goals.

There will be numerous special events and educational programs this year focusing on diversity and what it means to the success of our organization. More information will be forthcoming.

Visit the Oregon Guard on the web:

www.mi.state.or.us
www.orport.ang.af.mil
www.oregonguard.com
www.orklam.ang.af.mil
The Evergreen Aviation Museum in McMinnville held a flag dedication ceremony on Feb. 9 to honor the tireless efforts of the volunteers who work to support the museum. In attendance were the many volunteers and their families, civic leaders, and members from the 142nd Fighter Wing.

Maj. Gen. Alex Burgin was the keynote speaker. The 142nd base honor guard and 234th Army Band provided additional support.

By MONA SPENST JORDAN

142nd FW Public Affairs

Tech. Sgt. Lisa Scott has one wish: to make her brother’s wish come true. Scott, a technical sergeant in the 142nd Maintenance Squadron, is working with the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Oregon to collect donations to benefit Oregon children facing life-threatening illnesses. Her own brother, Chris Hartzell, whose life-long dream of meeting basketball great Michael Jordan, will be fulfilled this month.

Hartzell, 18, received a liver transplant two years ago. Healthy at birth, Hartzell contracted an infection, which led to the deterioration of his liver. Not expected to live past age three, Hartzell’s fighting spirit eventually made him a prime candidate for a liver transplant, Scott said. The operation was deemed a success, however, his health is still touch and go.

“Chris has always been such a little fighter,” Scott said. “Throughout his life the doctors have marveled at his will to live when all odds were against it. I’m so proud of him, and I am in awe of his strength and courage.”

Scott worked on the annual coin drive, “Make a Million for Make-A-Wish,” which was extended through March 15 specifically because her brother’s wish was fulfilled.

“When I first mentioned it, the people here in maintenance emptied their pockets for this cause,” Scott said. “It’s so great! I’m so appreciative and overwhelmed at the generosity of my co-workers.

Make-A-Wish will use any money collected above what’s needed for Hartzell’s trip to grant magical moments for other area children. For more information on the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Oregon, Inc., visit www.orwish.org.

A dream is a wish your heart makes: 142 FW Make-a-Wish coin drive hits home for NCO

Chris Hartzell, brother to Tech. Sgt. Lisa Scott, had his dream fulfilled by the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Oregon. Hartzell’s dream of meeting basketball great Michael Jordan became a reality thanks to the assistance of the 142nd Maintenance Squadron’s coin drive.

Now, with the link made, Hartzell’s got the ball. He left March 2 for Washington, D.C., where he dined with Michael Jordan and then sat courtside at a Washington Wizards basketball game. But it’s not still not a free throw for the young man from Bend.

“This wouldn’t have been possible without the charitable donations of the community,” Scott said. “Make-A-Wish has only met 50 percent of their projected costs this year. It’s really a great program and I would like to see other children get their wishes, too.”

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13th annual
M I L I T A R Y B A L L

May 18, 2002
Evergreen Aviation Museum
McMinnville, Ore.

Tickets
$20 E-5 and below, and guests
$25 All others
$30 At the door

Packages

Gold Package $300
• Lodging for two at a McMennamins hotel
• Wine country tasting tour, including a vineyard lunch 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.
• Room champagne
• Limousine service to and from the ball
• Ball tickets
• Sunday morning breakfast

Silver Package $250
• Lodging for two at the McMinnville Red Lion
• Hair styling and manicure
• Hospitality room at the Red Lion
• Limousine service to and from the ball
• Ball tickets

Bronze Package $200
• Lodging for two at the McMinnville Best Western
• Room champagne
• Corsage
• Limousine service to and from the ball
• Ball tickets

For more information:
Tracy Ann Gill (503) 584-3991
Kelly Wright (503) 584-3613
Debbie Cimmer (503) 584-3492
Jeanne Saxton (503) 335-4227

Make checks payable to ORNGERF-Military ball

Table Reservations

Cost: $10 per table

Unit name: ____________________________________________________________
Number of tables (10 people per table): ________________________________
Point of contact: ______________________________________________________
Phone number: _______________________________________________________

RSVP and money due NLT Friday, April 26, 2002

Please route through interoffice mail or postage mail to:
Tracy Ann Gill
Office of the Adjutant General
P.O. Box 14350
Salem, OR 97309.

Call (503) 584-3991 with questions.

13th annual
Supply sergeant leaves bootprints in the sand

Tech Sgt. Brian Roth enjoys a leisurely camel ride while on tour in Saudi Arabia. The supply sergeant supported AEF 10 in Southwest Asia in November.

By MONA SPENST JORDAN

H260 DW Public Affairs

Boot prints in the Saudi sands are not the only mark Tech. Sgt. Brian Roth made during his tour in Southwest Asia. His finesse in the field of supply is in hot demand.

Roth left late November for a 90-day tour supporting AEF 10. While there, he earned respect and admiration for his professionalism and dedication to duty and has been nominated for the “Supplier of AEF 10” award.

As a civilian, Roth works for the Veteran’s Hospital. As a traditional Guardman, he is a customer service representative in the 142nd Operations Support Support Branch (Base Supply). Scheduled to return sometime in March, the letter below precludes his return to native soil.

Celebrating women’s history month

“Women Sustaining the American Spirit,” this year’s theme for National Women’s History Month, was chosen following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on America, said Navy Undersecretary Susan M. Livingstone.

The theme recognizes the profound role and impact of women in creating and sustaining the nation, Livingstone told a packed theater March 14 at Arlington National Cemetery’s Women in Military Service for America Memorial.

DoD’s National Women’s History Month observance marked the first by a federal agency at the memorial.

The theme, Livingstone said, “focuses our thoughts on the strength and courage of women. Not only throughout the history of our country, but also to this very moment. And to this very day, where American women once again fight and make the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom — now in a global war against terrorism.”

If anyone had difficulty in defining the American spirit before Sept. 11, “it became crystal clear to the entire world on that defining day only a brief six months ago,” she said.

“The depth of our shared love of country and our fellow citizens, the depth of our resolve to defend our democratic values; the strength of character, courage, bravery and heroism of Americans everywhere, the numerous acts of civility, selfless service and generosity that are at the very heart of our country — that is the American spirit the world understood on Sept. 11,” she said.

“As women of America’s Defense Department, it’s particularly fitting today that we remember and celebrate our own,” she said emphatically.

“The more than 200,000 women who serve on active military duty comprise nearly 15 percent of the active force.

Another 212,000 women serve in the National Guard and Reserve.

More than 245,000 women work as defense civilian employees.

More than 63,000 women today are military spouses, Livingstone noted.

“From the early days of this country to Operation Enduring Freedom, and all of the years in between, women in America’s defense — both uniformed and civilian — have made a difference wherever they’ve served,” she said. She recounted the long history of valor, service and sacrifice by women and then centered on more recent times.

“In the 1960s and 70s, more than 265,000 military and civilian women served during the Vietnam War. Each of them again a volunteer, and 67 of them lost their life in service to this nation,” Livingstone said.

Nearly 40,000 women were deployed during Operation Desert Storm, she said, with 13 dying in the line of duty and two becoming POWs.

Women are reminded of the bravery of American women in Panama, Grenada, Somalia, Kosovo and Bosnia, and those aboard the USS Cole when terrorists struck in October 2000,” Livingstone said.

“We are reminded of our courageous forces in Afghanistan, more than 10 percent of whom are women. We are reminded of Marine Sgt. Jeannette Winters, who became the first woman in the U.S. military to die in Operation Enduring Freedom.

She said the patriotism, bravery and determination of the women who went to work at the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001 also must not go unnoticed.

“Of the 125 Pentagen workers who died that day, 47 were women,” she noted. Seven of the women were active duty military members, and the other were civilians.

“They died because of how they lived, working in service to this nation,” Livingstone said. “But Sept. 11 was not only about the loss of our sisters, daughters, mothers and grandmothers. It was also about the loss of our brothers, sons, fathers and grandfathers.

“Ask you now to pledge to never forget,” she said. “To never forget the sacrifice and courage of those we lost and their families. To never forget and never lose the renewed depth of American spirit we have felt since Sept. 11. And to never forget that our nation requires and deserves our resolve, our fortitude and our patriotism.”

Spotlight

Name: Pfc. Stephanie Gehrls
Age: 21
Hometown: Salem, Ore.
Unit: A/141 Support Battalion
MOS and job title: 88M (truck driver)
Length of service: 2 years

Civilian occupation: Front-end assistant at Costco

Family: Mom, Linn; dad, John; sister, Megan (9)

Most memorable military experience: When I was outside the Military Department, I got a truck tire stuck in my pocket, and I couldn’t even salute the officer passing by.

Personal heroes: Besides my parents, I’d have to say my company commander, Capt. Schenille.

I’d have to say my company commander is very motivating and he never complains. He knows what he wants and he always finds a way to do it.

With a leader like that, you can’t lose. That’s a hero to me.

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April 2002

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142nd Logistics Squadron presented with Outstanding Unit of the Year award

The selection for the Oregon Outstanding Unit of the Year award was made. The overall qualifications of the unit submissions for this award were excellent. Sincere appreciation goes to the commanders who pursued this avenue for recognizing their enlisted personnel and unit accomplishments.

Congratulations to the 142nd Logistics Squadron on their selection as the Oregon outstanding unit of the year. The banquet will be held in April or May regarding submitting packages for the Air Force Outstanding Unit of the Year award.

Formal presentation of this award will be at the annual recognition/retirement/suite/banquet scheduled for March 22. This banquet will also honor the Retired year 2001 retirees, outstanding airman of the year, first sergeant of the year and Maj. Gen. Chester E. McCarty winners.

Medal approved for support of operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom

The Army has given approval early this month for soldiers who are actively involved in operations Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle to use their medals of the year, first sergeant of the year, first sergeant of the year, and first sergeant of the year, first sergeant of the year, and first sergeant of the year, first sergeant of the year.

Any reserve component soldiers who are voluntarily mobilized in support of operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom is eligible to receive the Armed Forces Reserve Medal with “M” device, according to the Total Army Personnel Command.

Volunteers are also eligible for the award, officials said, but their orders should cite that duty is in support of the war-on-terror operations.

Also the Air Force insignia for former wartime service and overseas service bars have been approved for wear by soldiers who have been assigned to support operations Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom.

The 142nd Fighter Wing is the best F-15 unit in the nation, said Air National Guard Maj. Gen. Chester E. McCarty.

Enduring Freedom, according to FERSCOM.

In the next revision to the Army Regulation 670-1 it will state that soldiers to have to meet the following criteria to wear the sleeve unit insignia.

The soldiers must have been assigned to a unit that has actually participated in or been in direct support during Operations Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom, in which they were exposed to the threat of enemy action in either direct or indirect fire.

Also the soldier must be deployed within the central command operations and fall under the command of the forces commander, CENTCOM, in order to qualify to wear sleeve unit insignia.
During the 2001 training year, the Innovative Readiness Training program (IRT) completed 25 community projects. Each year, the Oregon Army National Guard carefully selects community projects that provide valid training to enhance mission capabilities; add value to communities; support non-profit organizations; enhance public awareness of the National Guard; and do not compete with private enterprises. The IRT program not only provides individual and collective soldier skills, but also adds value to communities’ infrastructure and causes economic boosts to small communities.

2001 project highlights
Heritage Park, Salem—Maj. Gen. Raymond F. Rees had a vision for a park that would provide educational information on the heritage of the Army National Guard. During this project, IRT soldiers demolished the old Navy Marine Corps Reserve Center, excavating the 3.5-acre site. The park will include a bronze volunteer statue, which will be approximately 9 1/2 feet tall, and a sunrise made of red, yellow, and blue brick and concrete.

Blue Mountain Community College, LaGrande—Due to the absence of equal sport activities for females, BMCC sought the help of the IRT program to tear out an old track and build a soccer field in its place. In addition, IRT soldiers put in a new road entrance and an extra parking area.

Oregon Dunes Restoration Project, Reedsport—The Department of Agriculture, US Forest Service, and the IRT program began a 10-year restoration of approximately 640 acres of Siuslaw National Forest land at the Oregon Dunes Overlook in 1998. The summer of 2001 marked the third year of the restoration partnership. To achieve the goal of restoring the natural dunes habitat, the IRT soldiers attempt to eliminate the European beachgrass that was planted to stabilize the sand in the early 1900s. As the foreign beachgrass grew, it choked out native plants and animals, causing the development of high foredunes and halting the natural dune process of moving sand inland.

The 270th Air Traffic Control Squadron (ATCS) continued to provide air traffic services at the Klamath Falls airport throughout 2001. The 90-member team is responsible for a fixed-facility mission involving the manning and operation of the Kingsley tower and radar approach control, both of which function seven days a week, 16 hours a day. The unit is required to be mission-ready for combat duty on an as-needed basis and has the ability to provide all-weather traffic operations from a bare base or stand alone configuration.

One of only 10 Air National Guard units with this capability, the 270th ATCS members are skilled at setting up and operating from a tactical air traffic control tower and are equipped with radar approach control and navigational systems. The implementation of Operation Noble Eagle following the attacks on America in September resulted in numerous taskings for the 270 ATCS.

For several weeks, four members ran the Kingsley Field air traffic control tower 24 hours a day and played a critical safety role in de-conflicting air traffic between civilian and potential emergency military air operations. The 270 ATCS members worked closely with air port personnel and the Federal Aviation Administration on aviation security measures and overall safety of air operations.

The 270 ATCS also deployed 22 air traffic controllers and support personnel to several classified locations within the United States in response to homeland defense needs. These military members will continue to support Operation Noble Eagle as long as necessary.
The 272nd Combat Communications Squadron (CBCS) has an authorized strength of 119 personnel who maintain and operate communications equipment for a wide range of information services to support local, state, and national objectives. The 272 CBCS has numerous taskings, to include a 45-person initial communications element to support US Air Force/European potential war time needs. This element includes a personnel and equipment package, and is used to provide full-spectrum full-service voice, messaging, and data services for the establishment of critical command and control communication pathways at deployed locations.

The 272 CBCS possesses two complete equipment systems to support its European-based mission-tasking. Since the unit's inventory includes older information technology standards, members worked hard over the past year to modernize the existing network technology, resulting in a unit that is ready, relevant, and responsive to today's information age. Modernization efforts will continue to take place into the future as the 272 CBCS prepares for receipt of new theatre-deployable communications equipment in an effort to more effectively support aerospace expeditionary force taskings.

In addition to unit efforts related to deployments, training, and equipment upgrades throughout the year, the 272 CBCS was tasked in September to provide key communications support following the terrorist attacks on America and the subsequent initiation of Operation Noble Eagle. Numerous unit members provided high frequency single sideband radio support, which yielded participation in the national federal shares multi-agency federal command and control net, the national and regional mars networks, and the Oregon and Washington emergency management networks. Establishment of these critical radio networks ensured connectivity between the Oregon Air National Guard and numerous command headquarters and resulted in timely information exchanges.

The unit continues to support Operation Noble Eagle with command/control systems and other radio support and will continue to do so into the foreseeable future.

Training year 2001 saw the 741st Corps Support Battalion deploy members of Det. 4, 1241 Ordnance Company to the Balkans, where they provided calibration support to Task Forces Eagle and Falcon.

Several months later, the detachment deployed to Redstone Arsenal, Ala., to train on and sign for millions of dollars worth of sophisticated calibration equipment. The detachment will return to Redstone three times over the next five years to ensure they are trained on the latest equipment and methods.

The 741st CSB deployed to Oro Grande, N.M., in support of Operation Roving Sands, an air defense exercise involving soldiers from multiple services and nations. The unit provided logistics, transportation, field services support, and base cluster command and control to numerous combat and combat service support units.

The 741st CSB also deployed soldiers to Gowen Field, Idaho, to conduct a post-mobilization mission. Soldiers provided direct support maintenance to the 116th Armored Brigade of the Idaho Army National Guard.

The 3670th Maintenance Company conducted home station annual training, and provided extensive general support maintenance to equipment belonging to Oregon units. During this time, the unit also provided maintenance support to the 1249th Engineer Battalion at construction sites in central Oregon.

Throughout training year 2001, the 3670th provided skilled soldiers to assist in the renovation of the Fremont Power House, a national historic site in northeastern Oregon.
The combination of America's war on terrorism and steady state commitments worldwide has put increased strain on the Air Force's aeromedical evacuation function, or AEF. However, except for a few stressed career fields, officials at the Pentagon say normal rotations should be back soon.

"Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper is committed to the AEF concept, having gone through it with a 12-month period at home," said Maj. Gen. Jeffrey B. Kohler, director of operational plans, deputy chief of staff for bit hit deeper," Kohler said. "We know that there are some stressed career fields, such as security forces, combat communications and firefighters, that might have to stay a little longer," Kohler said. "But that's not to say that absolutely everyone in those career fields will be staying longer, though.

The deployment picture will start to come into focus by the middle of February when the Air Force begins scheduling for the rotation in March, he said.

The tremendous performance of the AEF force is rooted in a belief that what is causing the stress on certain career fields is in the first place, Kohler said.

"The Air Force is sort of a victim of its own success," Kohler said. "The reason we are stressed is simple—we do what we are called upon to do, and we are not thinking about what we need to set up these bases and started generating sorties as soon as we were asked. I think the results speak for themselves in the war on terrorism in Afghanistan. The (US) Central Command commander in chief could not have been more critical of how well the super work of all the airmen who went out and set it up.

To ease the problems the Air Force has managed to get the requirements set under current requirements, about 10 percent of the people will stay deployed a little longer—some up to 135 days, others, up to 180 days. As a result of the overlap, the second part of the solution will be to reach into the next AEF, and bring replacement unit type codes forward about 45 days. Any reduction in current requirements may get the AEF cycle on track a little bit quicker.

Another way to relieve some of the burden on deployed people is to find additional airmen who normally do not deploy and place them in an AEF library.

This crisis has caused us to look a little bit at what we are doing, and we are going to do a lot better at that," Kohler said. "We'd like to be able to find people who we haven't originally had in an AEF library who can deploy but don't normally deploy. For example, air education and training command has instructors who aren't special duty currently, and the AEF leadership has said that there may be periods in the year when they can rotate. This is just one example and we are looking at all options.

Other fixes for stressed career fields are going to take some time and may only be resolved with increased manpower. Although the Air Force will ask for an end-strength increase of about 22,000 with 7,000 requested for this year, because of training problems, that will be more of a long-term solution, Kohler said.

"This is an extraordinary time for the airmen who normally do not have a scheduled deployment," the Air Force recently told commanders. "The nation is grateful for the sacrifices our airmen continue to make in meeting our commitments to fight the war on terrorism and defend the American homeland. The secretary and I are proud of the job you are doing and we are personally committed to maintaining the AEF rotation schedule to the greatest possible extent."

PANG February blood drive considered highly successful

Despite recent restrictions placed on blood donors who have spent six months or more cumulative time in Great Britain and for most of Europe, Red Cross officials are pleased with the numbers garnered during the Feb. 25 bloodmobile visit to the Portland Air Base.

Senior Master Sgt. Mike Steimann, 142nd Fighter Wing public health superintendent, said the goal for the first drive of 179 units was met. There were 45 presenters, with six deferrals, resulting in 39 actual donations.

For the drive for the next Portland Air Base blood drive was not available at press time; however, it will be scheduled for some time late spring. For more information, call Steimann at (503) 335-4762.

SSCRA available for Guard members called to active duty

Reservists and National Guard members who have been called to active duty are reminded that they are covered under the Soldiers’ and Sailors’ Civil Relief Act (SSCRA).

Some of the SSCRA’s basic relief provisions are in the areas of lease termination, rent and eviction protection, life and medical insurance coverage, and installment contracts and mortgage foreclosures.

In addition, active duty servicemembers who have incurred loans or debt prior to entering service will not be obligated to pay an interest rate in excess of 6 percent.

If you are on active duty and are currently paying more than a 6 percent interest rate on a debt you incurred prior to activation, you should notify your lender to adjust the rate.

Please note that members of the National Guard called to active duty are only covered while serving on active duty orders issued under authority of Title 10 U.S.C.

Golf tournament scheduled to benefit Portland-area charity

Mark your calendars for the 2002 “Wings of Angels” 5th annual golf tournament, which will take place May 20, at the Gresham Golf Course, in Gresham, Ore.

The tournament is open to all Department of Defense employees (state, federal and retired), family members and guests. Proceeds go to the Doughy Center, an organization in Portland that helps children cope with the traumatic loss of parents and siblings.

The tournament format is a four-person scramble—you pick your foursome; we pick your team with a blind draw.

The price is $65 a person, which includes golf, cart, banquet, prizes and more.

The deadline for registration is Aug. 1, 2002. For more information contact Senior Master Sgt. Debbie Cimmer at (503) 335-4492; or Lt. Col. Bill Nielsen, (503) 335-4197.

Health promotion program implemented in ORANG

By Lt. Col. RICK DANIELS

OREGON ARMY NATIONAL GUARD

Physical fitness is a vital component of the armed forces of the United States. The primary mission of mobilization depends heavily on the soldier’s fitness level.

Consequently, the Department of Army developed the HOOAH-HEALTH program which has been in place for several years.

This program is designed for soldiers to have common methods for soldiers to implement individualized fitness goals.

However, the HOOAH-HEALTH program was not implemented in the Oregon Army National Guard until the teaching team of HQ-STARC, under the leadership of Lt. Col. Rick Daniels and support of Col. Douglas Eliasen applied for funding from the HPPI monies.

The funding was awarded to Oregon Health & Sciences University where Daniels works in his civilian role as a PhD prepared nurse educator.

The prevalence of overweight conditions and poor fitness is clearly identified as problems for the National Guard.

Studies have shown that in contrast to the active duty population, National Guard members do not have the fiscal resources and access to qualified personnel for performing and designing interventions to support positive health behaviors.

Only meeting one weekend a month does not lend itself well to continuity and follow-up of wellness programs for individuals.

Current practices in the National Guard does little to support members in their efforts to lose weight, improve their fitness levels and quality of life, and reduce the risk of smoking/behavior addictions.

Integrating this health promotion program into the health lifestyles of National Guard members and consequently increasing their propensity for mobilization.

This health promotion program is an intervention driven health promotion project that is in its second year.

This program initially involved one Oregon Army National Guard unit for the first year of implementation.

Currently, the fitness program is in its second year and is being implemented in four sites across the state of Oregon: Eugene, Monmouth and Roseburg.

Volunteer participants were assessed for baseline comfort with HRA, biometric measurements such as pulse and blood pressure, body weight, height—gathered by nurse officers who provide annual health examinations.

This has tremendous financial implications, as well as the obvious health benefits to these soldiers.

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Tricare beneficiaries may have travel costs reimbursed

Tricare Prime beneficiaries referred more than 100 miles from their primary care manager for specialty care may be eligible to have their actual travel expenses reimbursed by Tricare. Under provisions of the 2001 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), travel reimbursement is retroactive to Oct. 30, 2000, for Prime enrollees who are referred more than 100 miles from their primary care manager’s office for medically necessary specialty care.

To qualify for reimbursement, beneficiaries must have travel orders for past referred specialty care prepared by a Tricare representative at the military treatment facility (MTF) where the referral exists before issuing travel orders.

To file a travel reimbursement claim, beneficiaries should submit the appropriate original receipt(s) (keeping copies for themselves), a completed reimbursement form, and the original copy of their orders issued by the MTF or lead agent.

Beneficiaries may receive reimbursement after completing and submitting these items.

The new Prime enrollee travel entitlement does not apply to travel expenses incurred by active duty uniformed services members, active duty family members residing with their sponsors overseas, or to travel costs of beneficiaries referred under DoD specialized treatment programs, which are reimbursed by other travel entitlements; nor does it apply to transportation expenses resulting from emergency care covered under the basic Tricare Standard benefit.

Tricare Prime beneficiaries seeking reimbursement for travel expenses incurred for obtaining referred specialty care may contact their local MTF or lead agent beneficiary counseling and assistance coordinator (BCAC) for assistance.

To contact BCACs, beneficiaries can visit the Tricare web site at www.tricare.osd.mil/Tricare/beneficiary/BCACDirectory.htm. The 2002 NDAA, signed into law by President Bush on Dec. 28, 2001, authorizes travel orders and reimbursement for one non-medical attendant, under certain conditions.

Tricare Prime enrollees who travel with a non-medical attendant should save travel and lodging receipts for themselves and the non-medical attendant.

The new non-medical attendant travel benefit will be implemented in the next several weeks and will be retroactive to Dec. 28, 2001. Specific details of the non-medical attendant travel benefit will be available soon at www.tricare.osd.mil.

Tricare outreach to identify eligibles and pay claims

Tricare for Life (TFL) claims initially denied by Tricare for some individuals recorded as being ineligible in the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Records System (DEERS) will be paid, but a deadline has been established for individuals to verify eligibility.

TFL, a new health benefit extended by the Department of Defense to approximately 1.5 million beneficiaries aged 65 and over, provides pharmacy benefits and Tricare coverage for Medicare. More than 3 million health care claims have been paid since the program started in October 2001.

Tricare officials point out that payments for some health care claims, however, was initially denied for the reason described above.

In many cases, these denials were based on persons who have “expired eligibility” in DEERS, meaning that their eligibility has not been re-verified in the last four years as required by DoD policy.

DoD recently announced that Tricare claims will be paid for a limited time for TFL beneficiaries with “expired eligibility” in DEERS. Claims filed beginning Oct. 1, 2001 but denied due to “expired eligibility” will be automatically reprocessed.

Neither beneficiaries nor providers will be required to resubmit the denied claims. Beneficiaries are required, however, to ensure their eligibility is updated in DEERS by Aug. 1, 2002. After Aug. 1, 2002, claims received for beneficiaries with expired eligibility will be denied until the eligibility information is updated.

For more information on TFL, interested persons can visit the Tricare web site at www.tricare.osd.mil, or call the Tricare information center, toll-free, at (877) 363-5433.
Aircrew jumps to safety in Mohawk crash

Madras—Two Oregon Army National Guard pilots and a civilian air- line personnel locator information, and even links to copies of the US Constitution and Declaration of Independence.

Click on the home page "laws & regulations" link and then the "statistics gateway (FedStats)" link. You’ll gain access to an alphabetical listing of all the statistical keeping agencies. You can also find links to pages designed for children that several government agencies maintain.

If all else fails and you can’t find what you’re looking for, the FirstGov main page includes a search engine that searches out to all federal and state government Internet sites.

The Azuwur staff recently found back issues of the paper dating to 1974. As the Oregon Guard continues to excel into the new millennium, we would like to run selected stories to look back into the past.

Steve Elder, 36, commanded a C model Mohawk unit was named the top re- sultant the following Monday and returned to safety. Only one of the four, crew chief Staff Sgt. Philo Pheigh, 41, sustained injury.

Hammons, Pheigh, and Lara are Salem residents, an Oregon resident, owns his own con- vince to function.

All small white civilian airplane flew toward the crash site in a zig-zag pat- tern. It approached the site and began circling. The survivors spread their parachutes with the orange, brown and green panels showing in the snow and settled down to wait. A Mohawk soon arrived overhead.

In about 20-30 minutes, the Oregon National Guard rescue helicopter with Maj. Tom Fredrybau, Maj. Herb Sims, and Sgt. Mike Murphy aboard came di- rectly to the group. The chopper crew was in contact with the Mohawk, which guided them to the site. The survivors were also in contact with the rescue crew by radio.

The Guard helicopter had left the AASF minutes after the crash call was received at 11:52 p.m. The survivors were rescued and in the Redmond hos- pital by 1:30 p.m. The survivors were checked, released and arrived in Salem at approximately 4:45 p.m., where Pheigh was transported to Salem Hospital for back injury treat- ment.

Pheigh was released from the hospi- tal the following Monday and returned to the Guard. Mike Murphy aboard came di- rectly to the group. The chopper crew was in contact with the Mohawk, which guided them to the site. The survivors were also in contact with the rescue crew by radio.

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The Revolutionary War

1775-1815

The American Revolution begins

April 19, 1775

At Lexington, Mass., 700 British troops, on a mission to capture Patriot leaders and seize a Patriot arsenal, march into Lexington to find 77 armed minutemen. The Rev. John Parker was waiting for them on the town's common green. British Maj. John Pitcairn ordered the outnumbered patriots to disperse, and after a moment's hesitation the Americans began to drift back into their homes. Suddenly, the "shot heard around the world" was fired from an undetermined gun, and a cloud of musket smoke soon covered the green.

When the brief Battle of Lexington ended, eight Americans lay dead or dying, and 10 others were wounded.

Only one British soldier was injured, but the American Revolution had begun.

By 1775, tensions between the American colonies and the British government had reached the breaking point, especially in Massachusetts, where patriot leaders formed a Committee of Correspondence and trained militias to prepare for armed conflict with the British troops in Boston. In late March, British Maj. Gen. Thomas Gage, the British governor of Massachusetts, received instructions from England to seize all stored military supplies and gunpowder accessible to the American insurgents.

On April 18, British forces marched to Lexington and Concord, in an attempt to seize the colonial arsenals and capture patriot leaders Samuel Adams and John Hancock, known to be hiding at Lexington.

The Boston patriots had been preparing for such a military action by the British for some time, and had spread a plan among the colonial leaders to delay the British march, believing that more support could be recruited. Several British cruisers were stationed along the Massachusetts coast to prevent the gathering of supplies the Americans had collected, but were soon advanced against by a gang of minutemen, whom they could not defeat.

Col. Lt. Col. Smith and the colonial militiamen, however, managed to delay the British long enough for help to arrive. By the time the British finally reached Boston, nearly 300 British soldiers had been killed or wounded, and the Battle of Lexington was over.

The British troops did not suffer any casualties.

The First US air combat mission begins

March 30, 1918

Eight Curtiss "Jenny" planes of the First Aero Squadron, organized in March 1917, leave for the Colonie, N.M., in the first air combat mission in US history.

On March 30, 1918, the First Aero Squadron, organized in March 1917, left the US for the first air combat mission in US history.

The Korean War

1950-1953

Reds claim US army casualties

March 30-40, 1952

The US Army announces that US casualties as of March 30 are 106,671 with 18,567 dead.

Despite the negative comment of UN Secretary General Trygve Lie on March 13 that he was "less than optimistically" for peace settlement in Korea, some progress is made in the talks.

On March 20 the question of which ports neutral inspection teams will be stationed during the truce is agreed upon.

In the south, teams will be at the seaports of Pusan, Inchon, Kunsan and Kangnung at the Taegu area.

In the north inspectors will be at the Sinanju airport and Sinmujin, Mayongch, Chosin and Hungnam.

The teams will attempt to keep each side from importing more men and materiel and enforcing the truce as agreed upon in the talks.

Secretary of Defense Robert A Lovett's proposal for depot operations from July-December 1951.

He also makes the pledge that the United States will not pay "the price of appeasement" for peace in Korea.

Secretary of State Dean Acheson tells a Senate subcommittee on March 18 he believes there will eventually be peace in Korea.

South Korea has refused permission for the International Red Cross to investigate the cause of the pogroms in the country, as South Korea requested.

That doesn't keep Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Jacob Malik at the United Nations in New York from continuing the charge on March 14 that the United States was "stifling" a peace conference.

He says the United States is using garrison warfare for "mass killing of civilian population" in the Korean War. Malik Supplying the UN Disarmament Committee to immediately ban garrison warfare.

The delegate from the United Nations replies that the same day that the charges are "false, unwarrented and uncorroborated."

He says on March 15 that the United States will not let the Russians "get away with these dishonest absurd and monstrous charges under the guise of war." Then on March 19, he challenges Malik to let the IRC investigate the claims, which the Reds are refusing to do.

On March 19, Malik agrees to the investigation but demands that the UN Disarmament committee condemn the United States for "wide use of garrison warfare."

But the United States was able to get a majority of the commission members to institute global arms control conferences, thus allowing UN inspectors, as part of the condemnation.

On March 17 Soviet news agencies report that " ... the United States continues to substitute US forces from Australia, England, Brazil, Belgium, France, Italy and Poland had confirmed American forces in Korea;

A US spokesman said March 19 that UN medical teams are vaccinating South Koreans against cholera, typhus, smallpox and other diseases rampant in the north.

The Vietnam War

1941-1975

US withdraws from Vietnam

March 29, 1973

Two months after the signing of the Vietnam peace pact, the last US combat troops leave South Vietnam as Hanoi frees thousands of prisoners of the war held in North Vietnam.

America's direct eight-year intervention in Vietnam ends on March 29, 1973, a day after the first US combat troops left Vietnam. Some 7,000 US DOD civilians employed remained to aid South Vietnam.

Some 200,000 refugees of the United States, North and South Vietnam, and the Vietcong signed a peace agreement in Paris that ended the US involvement in the Vietnam War.

The key provisions included a cease-fire throughout Vietnam, the release of prisoners of war, and the reunification of North and South Vietnam through free elections.

The Vietnamese government was to remain until new elections were held, and North and South Vietnam were not to advance further nor be reinforced.

In reality, however, the agreement was little more than a face-saving gesture by the US government. Even before the last American troops departed on March 29, the communists were leading a civil war to reverse the peace, and by early 1974 full-scale war had resumed.

The Cold War

1945-1990

The Bay of Pigs invasion begins

April 17, 1961

A CIA-financed and trained group of Cuban refugees lands in Cuba and attempts to topple Fidel Castro's regime.

Fidel Castro had been a concern to US policymakers since he seized power in Cuba with the help of the CIA, which had aimed to overthrow Castro's government. Castro's attacks on US companies and interests in Cuba, in addition to his anti-American rhetoric, and Castro's movement toward a closer relationship with the Soviet Union negatively impacted US interests in the western hemisphere.

In March 1960, President Dwight D. Eisenhower ordered the CIA to train and fund a group of Cuban exiles for an attack on Cuba.

John F. Kennedy inherited this program when he took office in January 1961. Though many of his military advisors indicated that an assault on Cuba by highly-trained Cuban exiles was impossible, Kennedy gave the go-ahead for the attack.

The US trained a group of 1,400 anti-Castro American weapons and using American landing craft, waded ashore at the Bay of Pigs, on April 17, 1961.

The CIA would serve as a rallying point for the Cuban dissidents, who would rise up and overthrow Castro's military, and potentially start a full-scale war.

The plan immediately fell apart—the landing force met with unexpectedly rapid counterattacks from Castro's military, the tiny Cuban air force sank most of the exile's supply ships, the United States retrained for a different role, and the expected uprising never happened.

Soldiers from Task Force Oregon man security posts during the Winter Olympic games in Salt Lake City in February.

On March 30, the Oregon Air National Guard’s 270th Air Traffic Control Squadron received the Meritorious Service (Class I) Medal for providing humanitarian relief to residents of Honduras after Hurricane Mitch devastated the nation over four years ago.

Col. Jose Geronimo Barahona, assigned to the Honduran Armed Forces and director of operations for the Joint Chiefs of Staff, presented the nation’s highest award to the Klamath Falls-based ORANG unit at a recognition banquet held at the Airport Sheraton Hotel in Portland.

Members of the 270 ATCS were honored for providing much-needed supplies to Honduran residents following Hurricane Mitch in late October 1998.

Approximately 50 pallets were air transported via Klamath Falls, Medford, and Portland to Tegucigalpa, Honduras, over a span of several weeks.

Air Force Commendation Medal
- TSgt Ross Johnson
- TSgt Gary Stromer

Air Force Achievement Medal
- SRA Angela Woods

ANG Employer of the Year
- Hematology Oncology of Salem

ANG Retiree Airman of the Year
- TSgt Bruce Conrad
- TSgt Richard Guarente
- SMSGt Linda Phillips
- SMSGt Kent Graham
- CMSGt Steve Olson
- SMSGt Richard Manza
- CMSGt Michael Brown
- Col. Lyle Cabre

ANG Retiree Minuteman Statuettes
- TSgt Bruce Conrad
- TSgt Richard Guarente
- SMSGt Linda Phillips
- SMSGt Kent Graham
- CMSGt Steve Olson
- CMSGt Michael Brown
- Col. Lyle Cabre

ANG Employee of the Year
- Mr. Paul Mosier

ANG Recruiting NCO of the Year
- MSGT Alan Coleman

ANG Rookie Recruiter of the Year
- TSgt Kirk Robinson

Distinguished Service Award
- MG Gene Katle

ANG Career Advisors of the Year
- TSgt Jeffrey Macoy
- TSgt Jeffrey Fandell

270 ATCS receives award for humanitarian efforts

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