



THE IRONHORSEMAN

1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division



IronHorse
conducts
TOCEX

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On the cover



Photo by Spc. Bailey Kramer, 1BCT, 1Cav Div PAO

Sparta, N.C. native, Pvt. 1st Class Evan Isner, a forward observer assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Troop of the 1BCT, 1CD, lays and connects plastic flooring panels during a Tactical Operations Center Exercise, here, Dec 5. Flooring panels were assembled prior to placing a Deployable Rapid Assembly Shelter tent on top, as a preventive measure for adverse weather conditions.

**1st Brigade Combat Team
1st Cavalry Division
Fort Hood, Texas**



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IronHorse prepares for future exercises

By Spc. Bailey Kramer and Sgt. John Couffer
1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs

FORT HOOD, Texas –

The 1st “IronHorse” Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division prepares for future missions with a Tactical Operations Center Exercise, here, Dec. 3 through 6.

The IronHorse Brigade exe-

“You have to have a plan before boots hit ground and be ready to implement right away”

cutted readiness training by putting together the Deployable Assembly Shelter and establishing communications as part of the TOCEX.

“Being prepared and mission ready is important to the success of any unit,” said Philadelphia native, Sgt. Maj. Robert Leimer, the operations sergeant major for the IronHorse Brigade. “If you aren’t mission ready, you can’t execute your commander’s intent.”

“You never know when you are going to need this set up, you never know when your mission will change or where you will be that you will need to know how to set up and work out of a DRASH,” explained River Falls, Wis. native, Spc. Koehl Heebink,



Photo by Spc. Bailey Kramer, 1BCT, 1Cav Div PAO

Soldiers assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Troop of the 1BCT, 1CD move plastic flooring panels and fuel cans during a Tactical Operations Center Exercise, here, Dec. 5. Soldiers of Hammer Troop set up and arranged tents utilizing the flooring to ensure proper configuration, and arranged fuel cans next to power generators thereby ensuring an adequate fuel supply.

a forward observer assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Troop of the IronHorse Brigade.

According to drash.com the DRASH is, “a quick-erect shelter system that integrates shelter, mobility, lighting, heating, cooling and power in one package. Part of the US Army’s Standard Integrated Command Post System, DRASH Systems have helped military personnel establish rugged, user-friendly facilities for more than 25 years.”

The Soldiers organized the

equipment, identified necessary equipment to take to the field, inspected and transported the chosen equipment to the site, and then set it up, Leimer went on to explain the planning process.

“We wanted to inspect and ensure we still had all our equipment from before we deployed,” explained Leimer. “I wanted to make sure we still had all the tents and connectors that put this whole thing together.”

After completing the set up, the perimeter and communica-

tions equipment were installed.

“You have to have a plan before boots hit ground and be ready to implement it right away,” Leimer explained.

“Communications is what ties everything to a plan, so if you can’t establish communications, your plan will fall apart. “That’s why we start here. If you are not mission ready it will go bad from day one and when it goes bad you can’t crawl from out of that hole.”

Leimer, who has lead the brigade in the DRASH set up since 2008, said that it takes about 25 Soldiers to properly construct the equipment, but 50 is a more ideal number.

“The more Soldiers helping, helps make the process quicker and smoother,” Leimer added.

“The more you set it up, the more it becomes second nature,” said Heebink, who has been involved in more than seven set ups. “Every time you set it up, you become faster and more proficient at it.”

Due to deployment, this was the first time in nearly two years IronHorse Soldiers have constructed the DRASH, but Leimer believes that their hard work ended in success.

“I am proud of what the Soldiers accomplished,” Leimer concluded. “It looks great.”



Photo by Sgt. John Couffer, 1BCT, 1Cav Div PAO



GarryOwen commemorates Battle of Ia Drang Valley

By Sgt. John Couffer, 1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs



Photo by Sgt. John Couffer, 1BCT, 1Cav Div PAO

Soldiers assigned to the 1-7 Cav, 1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div. begin their 7.1 mile ruck competition to commemorate and honor the veterans of the 1965 Vietnam War's Battle of Ia Drang Valley, here, Nov. 16.

FORT HOOD, Texas – Soldiers of the 1st Squadron “GarryOwen,” 7th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, commemorated the 47th anniversary of the Vietnam War, Battle of the Ia Drang Valley, here, Nov. 16.

Teams comprised of Soldiers and officers of GarryOwen conducted a 7.1 mile ruck-run to commemorate the Battle of Ia Drang Valley. Veterans who served, fought and sacrificed throughout the history of the squadron also participated.

“We are doing this today to honor (veterans) and their service to their country and what they did, and to pay tribute to the shining part of our history,” said Command Sgt. Maj. William Burford, the senior enlisted member of GarryOwen.

Burford stated that events like these not only commemorate the past but also stress teamwork to achieve success.

“As they’re coming in, they’re coming in as a team. (The kids are giving it everything they’ve got. A lot of what we do is skill, but there’s a great deal of what we do that’s hard,” Burford said. “It’s staying together, pressing yourself that extra mile, the camaraderie, the high-fives, that’s what it’s all about.”

Jim Thorpe, Pa. native, Spc. Richard Balliet, a cavalry scout assigned to Troop B of GarryOwen and member of Team 10, the winning team of the competition also known as “GarryOwen Games 2,” said that participating and finishing as a team was the way it should be done.

“To come out and be able to perform not just as a team, but in pretty much everything that we do across the board here in 1-7, it means everything. It’s the way it’s supposed to be,” Balliet said.

Balliet also said his team operated and performed well together and because of that, Team 10 came in first.

“I believe we performed absolutely outstanding. Great leadership from Staff Sgt. Pratt, 1st Lt. Melendez and 2nd Lt. Joyce kept everybody moving. The timing was perfect between running and walking, they kept an eye on everybody, made sure everybody stayed together. It was really an outstanding team effort,” Balliet said.

Rockport N.Y. native, Capt. Michael Kaness, an operations officer assigned to the Headquarters and Headquarters Troop of GarryOwen said that this event was comprised of many teams, but only one can win.

Kaness said that about 22 teams were registered and competed today. He added that Team 10 was the first to complete the event in about one-hour and 26-minutes, well below the recommended team finishing time.

Kaness said the event was not only a way of commemorating the 47th anniversary of the Battle of Ia Drang Valley, but also to provide an opportunity and understanding of GarryOwen’s past.

Kaness said this particular event was a way for GarryOwen Soldiers to understand where they come from and where they’re going.

He also stated that this event provides an opportunity to look at the great accomplishments of GarryOwen and that he hasn’t been in a unit quite like this which has such an extensive history.

“I think it’s a great opportunity for these guys to fully understand the magnitude of the organization that they’re currently with. I’ve never been in a unit that has such esprit-de-corps and camaraderie like this,” Kaness concluded.



Photo by Sgt. John Couffer, 1BCT, 1Cav Div PAO

Two Soldiers assigned to the 1-7 Cav, 1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div., receive plastic utensils with their team number written on them as proof they reached the turn-around point of a commemorative 7.1-mile ruck competition, here, Nov. 16.



Centurions host culminating exercise

By Sgt. John Couffer

1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs

FORT HOOD, Texas – It was a clear day for training. The sun was out, the temperature cool and a light breeze brushed the skin of Soldiers in training. Suddenly, while on patrol, a squad of Soldiers spotted a simulated wounded Soldier on the ground. Some members of the squad-sized element began pulling security, other members shouted orders while two administered first aid under simulated small-arms fire.

model and focused on basic skills Soldiers should know and be efficient at while training or in combat.

“It involves everyone from the company commander all the way down to the individual Soldier in leading and developing them,” Ermatinger said.

According to Ermatinger, the exercise covered many tasks and drills to include: grenade training, weapons functions, chemical,

ing lane, said Soldiers received training on evaluating a casualty, controlling bleeding and airway, transporting a casualty and how to call up a 9-line medical evacuation report.

“My lane entailed evaluation of a casualty, control bleeding, control airway, then we had transporting a casualty and calling up a 9-line medical evacuation request,” Howard said.

Another skill Soldiers should know, according to Howard, is how to load wounded Soldiers into a Field Litter Ambulance, which was part of his lane. He said loading the wounded by precedence is crucial, especially when the FLA arrives to a hospital, it will be unloaded in the opposite order.

Howard said learning first aid and buddy aid should be number one because most personnel applying aid to the wounded are fellow Soldiers and first-line leaders when deployed.

Ermatinger further emphasized the importance of medical training.

“I believe it’s very important. I mean we train as we fight so we need to be proficient in these skills,” Ermatinger said. “These are the skills that will help Soldiers save their lives and others’, and do their jobs proficiently when they’re deployed.”

Army Warrior Tasks and Battle Drills are an annual requirement which allows Soldiers to not only improve on current tasks, but learn additional tasks they may not know.

Galveston, Texas native, Spc. Gustavo Gutierrez, a combat engineer assigned to Company C of the Centurion battalion said he learned how to work with an advanced version of the Army’s Single Channel Ground Air Radio System while participating in the communications training.

“Coming (to training) actually taught me how to operate and properly learn the methods of (the radio),” Gutierrez said.

He said while in his last unit he used a different radio system. Now, his fellow Soldiers taught him how to properly operate and to know all the functions of the SINCGARS radio.

Even though Gutierrez learned something new, he said he most liked the IED training because, like other Army tasks, it may be forgotten if not taught every so often.

“It’s a perishable skill that needs to be taught,” Gutierrez said. He added the IED



Photo by Spc. Bailey Kramer, 1BCT, 1Cav Div PAO

Soldiers assigned to the 1BSTB, 1CD, conduct improvised explosive device training lane during Operation Centurion Warrior Dec. 11, here. OCW was executed so Soldiers are trained and proficient in their Army Warrior Tasks and Battle Drills.

Soldiers of the 1st “Centurion” Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, executed and participated in Operation Centurion Warrior, Dec. 10 to 12 here.

The exercise was conducted to ensure Centurion Soldiers were trained and proficient in their Army Warrior Tasks and Battle Drills.

Evart, Mich., native 2nd Lt. Brian Ermatinger, an operations officer and the primary facilitator of the training exercise, assigned to the Headquarters and Headquarters Company of the Centurion battalion, said the exercise used the crawl-walk-run training

biological, radiological and nuclear training and reacting to contact. Other classes included: improvised explosive device training, vehicle and personnel searches, land navigation, reconnaissance, communications and first aid.

Senior Centurion battalion medic and Whitney, Texas native, Staff Sgt. Kyle Howard explained the importance of first aid training.

“Getting every Soldier smart on first aid is paramount, no matter how many times you can train on it, it’s a perishable skill,” Howard said.

Howard, who headed the first aid train-





Photo by Spc. Bailey Kramer, 1BCT, 1Cav Div PAO

Soldiers assigned to the 1BSTB, 1CD, conduct improvised explosive device training lane during Operation Centurion Warrior Dec. 11, here. OCW was executed so Soldiers are trained and proficient in their Army Warrior Tasks and Battle Drills.



Photo by Spc. Bailey Kramer, 1BCT, 1Cav Div PAO

Sgt. Emily Gonzales, a Soldier assigned to 1BSTB, 1CD, inspects her M40 protective gas mask during the Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear training portion of Operation Centurion Warrior Dec. 11, here. The OCW was an exercise that took place from Dec. 10 to 12 in which Centurion Soldiers conducted training on their Army Warrior Tasks and Battle Drills.

training lane allows Soldiers, who are not normally trained on the subject, to know

as well as some of the stuff for tactical combat casualty care," said Orange, Va., native Sgt. Anthony Schienschang, a military police officer also assigned to HHC of the Centurion battalion.

Schienschang said he liked the first aid portion of the exercise, but that he also found it challenging.

how to react in the event of IEDs.

Another Soldier who participated in the exercise said that he too learned something new.

"I think I refreshed myself on a little bit of the different ways to employ grenades

"I found it challenging because you had to take care of your casualty, protect them, effectively engage the enemy and still maneuver your troops all while calling in a 9-line," Schienschang said.

Like Ermatinger, Schienschang said being proficient in basic common tasks are necessary and important.

"I think that it's essential that we go back over the basics because if you lose focus and lose touch with what you have to do as a Soldier, then you're not an effective war fighter," Schienschang said.

Ermatinger said he thought the exercise went well, that it was good for morale and an overall good event. He also mentioned that he sees the Centurion battalion holding similar events in the future.



Stallions witness resiliency in wounded warriors

By Spc. Bailey Kramer and Sgt. John Couffer
1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs



Photo by Spc. Bailey Kramer, 1BCT, 1Cav Div PAO

Soldiers assigned to the Stallion Battalion tour the Intrepid Center of BAMC, led by Kathy, a supervisor and tour guide at the BAMC facility, here, Nov. 27. The Stallions took a great appreciation of the work volunteers do for their fellow comrades and plan on returning to volunteer at the Warrior Family Support Center.

SAN ANTONIO – The ability to recover from or adjust easily to misfortune or change is the Merriam-Webster definition of resilience, which is very important to the American Soldier.

“That was humbling to me, after seeing everything he has gone through, and in his mind he was still saying, ‘I still want to be a staff sergeant’”

The Wounded Warriors from the Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio displayed extreme resiliency to the visiting Soldiers of the 2nd “Stallion” Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division during their trip, here, Nov. 27.

“We saw a lot of Soldiers with severe injuries, but all of them still wanted to contribute, to be a part of the organization,” Bartow, Ga. native, Lt. Col. Kelvin Brown, the Stallion commander, said explaining the resiliency he witnessed among the Soldiers.

While assigned to his previous unit, Brown was given the opportunity to talk with actor Gary Sinise, where he learned just how much he does for Soldiers and Wounded Warriors.

“He sacrifices his time to go around talking to Soldiers,” Brown said. “Something I got out of that, we can never forget the sacrifices Soldiers have made. It really stuck with me and I wanted to reach out to our Wounded Warriors and let them know they are not forgotten, we appreciate all they have done for their country.”

After coordinating with supervisors at BAMC, the Stallions

were informed of the normal itinerary for visiting patrons and chose what interested them.

“We wanted to visit with (1st Cavalry Division) Soldiers, well Soldiers in general,” Brown added.

During their visit, they learned many Soldiers feel forgotten by their units.

“We found out a lot of Soldiers sometimes don’t receive visits from units. So we want to go down there to let these Soldiers know that no matter what patch you are wearing, you are a fellow Soldier,” Brown said about the Soldiers residing at BAMC.

Brown went on to talk about one Soldier the Stallions met on their visit, Sgt. Perez, a noncommissioned officer from Fort Riley, Kan., who, even with two amputated legs, expressed a desire to advance in the Army.

“We met Sgt. Perez,” Brown

said. “He is a double amputee, had sustained serious injuries, but the one thing he said was, ‘I still want to be a Staff Sergeant.’”

He found Perez’s words to be inspiring.

“That was humbling to me, after seeing everything he has gone through, and in his mind he was still saying, ‘I still want to be a staff sergeant. I know I am going to have to retire because of my injuries, but I still want to be a staff sergeant,’” Brown added.

Although this was the Stallions first trip, they don’t plan on remaining strangers to the facility. The commander’s goal is for not only Soldiers, but also families to visit the hospital two or three times a year.

“We don’t want it to be just the Soldiers, we want to get their family members down there as well to work at the Warrior Family Support Center as well,” Brown said about future visits to the hospital. “I want to see if we can get some volunteers to go down there for a day, and possibly cook dinner for some of the Wounded Warriors and their families.”

Brown saw similar desire in the Soldiers that went with him.

“On our way back to post, the Soldiers wanted to know what they can do as an organization to help those Soldiers,” Brown explained.

Knowing there is a growing desire to return and volunteer made Brown very happy.

“Some of the sacrifices the Soldiers made were one of the reasons we wanted to go,” Brown concluded. “It is a way to remember our fellow Soldiers, let them know they are not forgotten and we are thinking about them. That they are still very much a part of the formation.”



Lancers donate food, toys to ACS

By Sgt. Spc. Bailey Kramer
1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs

FORT HOOD, Texas
– With Christmas around the corner, the spirit of sharing has started to fill people’s hearts, and the 2nd “Lancer” Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division is no exception.

“Every day Soldiers work, and with the economy the way it is and bills piling up, it can be hard to give your family a good Christmas or Thanksgiving so it was very important to us to collect as much as we could to give back to the less fortunate Soldiers,” explained Apalachicola,

“It feels really good to know that we were able to help put a nice meal on the table for a family, that we were able to help”

Fla. native, Command Sgt. Maj. Ricky Linton, Lancers senior noncommissioned officer.

The Army Community Services mission is to provide services supporting the readiness and well-being of Soldiers and their families, civilian employees and retirees.

The morning of Nov. 19, Lancers arrived at the ACS building with more than 4,000 toy and food



Photo by Spc. Bailey Kramer, 1BCT, 1Cav Div PAO

Soldiers assigned to the Lancer Battalion lift a container filled with canned food items at the ACS food pantry here, Nov. 9.

items to donate to the Fort Hood ACS food pantry.

“There are no words to explain how much it means to us to have these kinds of donations,” said Bridget Sanders, the food pantry manager. “It was just overwhelming.”

For three years Linton has held the position of battalion command sergeant major and every year his battalion participates in food drives for the ACS food pantry.

“These organizations have always helped us, I have sent Soldiers to the food closet or to go get toys,” Linton explained

about their involvement. “I know they have always helped us out so I always want to help back.”

Downloading 16.5 containers of food and toys was more items than the pantry could hold, sending the overflow to the other side of Fort Hood to store in back-up storage.

The Lancers were more than generous with their donations and without the support of them and other donators the food pantry would not be able to proceed, Sanders said.

“We survive solely on donations,” Sanders said about the organization’s

assistance. “Without the help and support of everyone, we wouldn’t be able to help our Soldiers.”

Not only was Sanders and the rest of the ACS family appreciative of the support, Linton was proud of what they were able to do for a deserving family.

“It feels really good to know that we were able to help put a nice meal on the table for a family, that we were able to help” Linton concluded. “I am also proud of my Soldiers for the support they put into making this such a success.”



IronHorse Soldiers participate in Military Appreciation Day

By Sgt. John Couffer

1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs



Photo by Sgt. John Couffer, 1BCT, 1Cav Div PAO

ARLINGTON, Texas – Spc. Nicholaus Beeman (left), a Soldier assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd “Stallion” Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, holds the corner of the American flag as it is unfurled during the halftime show rehearsal for a NFL game at the Cowboys Stadium, here, Nov. 18. Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines were featured during half-time as part of Military Appreciation Day in which the services marched onto the field and displayed their respective service’s flag. The game was played between the Dallas Cowboys and Cleveland Browns.



Strasburg, Colo. native, Spc. Gregory Morgan, a cavalry scout assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd “Lancer” Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division explains details of the M2A3 Bradley Fighting Vehicle to a civilian outside of the Cowboys Stadium, here, Nov. 18.

Kearny, N.J. native, Sgt. 1st Class Oscar Ayala (far right), a platoon sergeant assigned to D Company, 2nd “Stallion” Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, marches with Soldiers from various units on Fort Hood, Texas, as they leave the field after the half-time show during a NFL game held at the Cowboys Stadium, here, Nov. 18.

Missoula, Mo. native, Sgt. Owen Zechman (right), a Soldier assigned to D Company, 2nd “Stallion” Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, describes the M1A2 Abrams battle tank to two people, here, Nov. 18.



IronHorse leaders serve Soldiers, families

By Sgt. John Couffer

1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs



Photo by Cpt. Angel Jackson-Gillespie, 1BCT, 1Cav Div PAO

Col. Steve Gilland (left) and Command Sgt. Maj. Mervyn Ripley (right), command team of the 1st "IronHorse" Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, serve Soldiers and family members during the Thanksgiving Holiday, here, Nov. 22.



Photo by Cpt. Angel Jackson-Gillespie, 1BCT, 1Cav Div PAO

Command Sgt. Maj. William Burford (left), senior noncommissioned officer of the 1st Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment and Lt. Col. Jay Miseli (right) commander of 1st Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment serve Soldiers and family members during the Thanksgiving Holiday, here, Nov. 22.



Photo by Cpt. Angel Jackson-Gillespie, 1BCT, 1Cav Div PAO

Lt. Col. Richard Ng, commander of 1st Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery, 1st "IronHorse" Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, serves Soldiers and family members during the Thanksgiving Holiday, here, Nov. 22.



1st BCT Soldiers participate in Cove parade

By Sgt. John Couffer

1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs



Photo by Sgt. John Couffer, 1BCT, 1Cav Div PAO

COPPERAS COVE, Texas – Soldiers assigned to the 1st Brigade Special Troops Battalion and 115th Brigade Support Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, and the Horse Detachment also of the 1st Cavalry Division, participate in the annual Copperas Cove parade, here, Dec. 1.



Photo by Spc. Jesse Barker, 1BCT, 1Cav Div PAO

COPPERAS COVE, Texas – Sgt. Douglas Stewart (right), a Soldier assigned to the 1st Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, marches in formation during the annual Copperas Cove parade, here, Dec. 1.

IronHorse participate in Christmas parade

By Spc. Bailey Kramer

1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs



Photo by Spc. Bailey Kramer, 1BCT, 1Cav Div PAO

KILLEEN, Texas – Maj. Gen. Anthony Ierardi, commanding general of the 1st Cavalry Division, leads Soldiers from the Cav's 1st Brigade Combat Team during Killeen's 50th Annual Christmas Parade, here, Dec. 8. Ierardi served as the parade's grand marshal.



Photo by Spc. Bailey Kramer, 1BCT, 1Cav Div PAO

KILLEEN, Texas – Soldiers from the 1st Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment and the 5th Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment both with the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, participate in Killeen's 50th Annual Christmas Parade, here, Dec. 8.



Garryowen hosts breakfast with Santa

By Sgt. John Couffer

1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs

FORT HOOD, Texas – Family Readiness Group members, Soldiers and officers of the 1st Squadron, 7th “GarryOwen” Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, hosted breakfast with Santa at the Oveta Culp Center, here, Dec. 1.

The event, staffed by FRG and GarryOwen volunteers, provided an opportunity for Soldiers and their Families to meet with one another, eat breakfast, visit with Santa and ask for special presents for the holidays.

“I think Soldiers and Families had a great time,” said Brighton, Mich. native, 1st Lt. Michael Gorecki, the executive officer of Headquarters and Headquarters Troop of GarryOwen. “The children enjoyed Santa and his gifts, as well as the crafts and games.”

Gorecki explained the idea behind the event was that of San Francisco native, Lt. Col. Jay Miseli, the commander of GarryOwen.

Gorecki explained Miseli, unit leaders, and FRG volunteers were seeking an event prior to the holidays in which Soldiers and their Families could get together in a social setting to assist with Comprehensive Soldier Fitness.

One FRG leader who attended the event said she thought the families and kids liked the event.

“I do think the Families enjoyed the event,” said Chicago, Ill. native, Jennifer Crilly, FRG leader for Troop C of GarryOwen. “And the kids were definitely excited to see Santa.”

Crilly explained that leaders’ spouses played a creative role in the event as well.

“The senior leaders’ spouses put together the candy reindeer that were handed out to the children, and Tiffany Welch, one of the other FRG leaders, put together a small crafts for the kids to do while they were there.”

Gorecki said the event was in the works for several weeks, but the turn-out was more than expected. He said the event started on time and that each child saw Santa at least once.

“Bottom line, with Santa giving gifts, how can you go wrong?” Gorecki said.

Crilly said she would attend again if given the chance because she likes to meet people.

“I would attend (again) because I enjoy getting to know the people my husband works with and their Families,” Crilly said.

Gorecki concluded saying GarryOwen has more plans to carryout events like these in the future, events that reach out to Soldiers and their Families.



Photo by Sgt. John Couffer, 1BCT, 1Cav Div PAO
1st Lt. Mike Gorecki, the executive officer of HHT, 1-7 Cav. “GarryOwen”, 1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div., pours pancake batter onto a skillet during their “Breakfast with Santa” event, here, Dec 1. Gorecki, along with fellow GarryOwen Soldiers aided in cooking pancakes for Soldiers, families and their children during the event.



Photo by Sgt. John Couffer, 1BCT, 1Cav Div PAO
A Soldier assigned to the 1-7 Cav. “GarryOwen,” 1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div., receives food provided by volunteers at the “Breakfast with Santa” event hosted by GarryOwen, here, Dec. 1. GarryOwen sponsored the event in which Soldiers, their Family Members and children had an opportunity to eat breakfast and visit with Santa to ask for special toys for the holidays.



Photo by Sgt. John Couffer, 1BCT, 1Cav Div PAO
San Francisco native, Lt. Col. Jay Miseli, commander of 1-7 Cav. “GarryOwen,” 1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div., sits on Santa’s lap, played by 1st Lt. Calvin Taylor, the executive officer of Troop B of GarryOwen, during the “Breakfast with Santa” event hosted by GarryOwen, here, Dec. 1. Soldiers assigned to GarryOwen, their Families and children had an opportunity to visit with Santa, ask for special presents, and receive special candy canes during the event.



Lancers win Division Championship game

By Sgt. John Couffer

1st BCT, 1st Cav. Div. Public Affairs



Photo by Sgt. John Couffer, 1BCT, 1Cav Div PAO

FORT HOOD, Texas – Number 23, Staff Sgt. Nith Keo, a cavalry scout assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd “Lancers” Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, takes off from the line of scrimmage during the Division Championship Flag Football game, here, Nov 28. The Lancers defeated Soldiers from 157th Quartermaster Company, 4th Sustainment Brigade, with a final score of 26-0.



Photo by Sgt. John Couffer, 1BCT, 1Cav Div PAO

FORT HOOD, Texas – Number 5, Spc. Jamel Baldwin (center), a combat documentation and production specialist, assigned to Company D, 2nd “Lancers” Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, runs after receiving the football during the Division Championship Flag Football game, here, Nov. 28. The Lancers football team defeated a team 157th Quartermaster Company, 4th Sustainment Brigade, with a final score of 26-0.

CONTACT US

Have an interesting story idea? Know an interesting Soldier? Feel free to contact our office via phone, email or social media. We would love to hear from you!

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