

# THE BLUEGRASS GUARD



## New G.I. Bill Approved For Army National Guardsmen

**By Capt. Frank Mattingly**

Army National Guard enlisted members who enlist, extend, or reenlist to total at least six years from July 1, 1985, are eligible for a total benefit of \$5,040. Officers who, on July 1, 1985, or later, agree to serve for six additional years beyond their current Selected Reserve obligation, are also eligible. The benefit is paid at the rate of \$140 per month for up to 36 months for full-time education attendance; \$105 per month for three-quarter time attendance; and \$70 per month for half-time attendance.

## Army Says "Good Bye" To Specialist Ranks

**By Capt. Frank Mattingly**

Starting Oct. 1 the enlisted ranks of specialist fifth and sixth class will disappear from the Army. Soldiers in those grades will convert to hard stripe NCOs. The Army will bear the cost of converting to the new stripe insignia, according to National Guard Bureau.

The change will affect more than 2,000 soldiers currently serving as Spec. 5 and Spec. 6 in the Kentucky Army Guard, and those promoted to those grades between now and Oct. 1, according to Warrant Officer Harold Reynolds. The National Guard Bureau will publish a letter of instruction that provides guidance to the states on making the change.

The start of the fiscal year was selected as the time to make the switch in order to mesh with several other changes to the Army uniform, according to NGB.

It was recommended by the Enlisted Personnel Management System Review group retain the Spec. 4 rank. The E-4 pay grade rank of corporal remains in the system.

Guardsmen are eligible for benefits as soon as they have completed initial active-duty training and 180 days service in the Army National Guard. Members who have a bachelor's degree are not

eligible for benefits, according to Capt. John Roth, Civilian Education Program Manager. For more information contact the Civilian Education Program Office at (502) 564-8550.

## Philippines Defenders Receive Bronze Stars

**By Capt. J. Gordon Nichols**

Bronze Star Medals were recently awarded to relatives of 17 Kentucky National Guard members who served in defense of the Philippines during World War II. The unit arrived in the Philippines just prior to Pearl Harbor and were captured and subjected to the horrors of the Bataan Death March and Japanese prison camps. The medals were presented by Kentucky Adjutant General Billy G. Wellman during ceremonies honoring the Guardsmen at Boone National Guard

Center during Armed Forces Day Open House.

The Guardsmen were members of Company D, 192nd Tank Battalion, a unit composed of central Kentucky residents mobilized in November 1940. The force was overrun by the Japanese in the spring of 1942 and the men from Company D were among the thousands of American ordered on the cruel march. Of the original 66 members in Company D, 29 died in battle, in prison camps or on the 50 to 70-mile march.

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Providing a protective perimeter from press for Governor Martha Layne Collins and Spend-A-Buck, members of the 614th MP Company from Murray, under the direction of 2nd Lt. Dan Harrison, participated in Derby activities held in Louisville. (Photo by Capt. Frank Mattingly)



## "THE VOICE" GOES 24 HOURS

By Capt. Frank Mattingly

"The Voice" of the Army National Guard is now available 24 hours-a-day by calling 1-800-245-0055. The recently completed system will provide telephone callers with a recorded introductory message and instructions for selecting a topic of interest. The caller then dials a three-digit code and listens to the information. Those who wish may leave a short recorded message or question at the end of the presentation. A similar service had been available under a different telephone number.

The system is activated by touch tone telephones only, and callers wishing to hear more than one subject may dial the asterisk at the end of a message and then enter a new three-digit code.

Guardsmen who have problems using the new system, or who wish to make a suggestion may call Lt. Col. Billy McKelvey in the National Guard Bureau's Army Directorate office, Autovon 227-3065, or commercial 202-697-3065.

## BLACK BOOTS RETURN TO ARMY INVENTORY

By Capt. Frank Mattingly

The Army's new black combat boot will be available at military clothing sales stores in June 1986, Army clothing officials have announced.

The new boot features a padded collar, speed lacing, improved traction and support, and a replaceable heel.

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Monitoring a sighting device called a collimator while wearing protective clothing can be a difficult task as Spec. 4 Howard H. Hagerty discovered during field exercises conducted at Fort Sill, OK. He is a member of Battery B, 623 Field Artillery from Campbellsville which is conducting its two week annual training with the Kentucky Army National Guard. (Photo by Capt. Frank Mattingly.)

## KENTUCKY GUARDSMAN TRY FOR "ALL-GUARD" MARATHON TEAM

By Capt. Frank Mattingly

Five members of the Kentucky Army National Guard participated in the annual National Guard Bureau Marathon held in Lincoln, Neb.

MSgt. Donald G. Ray (Co. A, 103d Support Battalion), MSgt. Mike Dawson (Headquarters Ky. State Area Command), SFC Jerry Tucker (Headquarters Ky. State Area Command), SFC Dennie Mahan (Detachment 1, Headquarters Co., 1/149 Infantry), and SFC A.J. White (438th MP Co.) were competing with over 360 other Guard members trying out for the "All-Guard" team, which is to go to the Marine Marathon in Washington, D.C. this fall.

The winner of the marathon was Capt. Rick Clear of Warrensburg, Mo. with a time of 2:31:32.2. Twenty-five positions were selected, with the longest time being 2:50:04.3.

## \$2,500 PRIZE OFFERED FOR POSTER DESIGN

By Capt. Frank Mattingly

The Chief of Staff for the Army has approved a contest to encourage soldiers to creatively express their impressions of

a "Proud and Ready" Army, according to a recent message.

Army National Guard members are eligible to participate in this competition by sending entry form and slides through state headquarters channels to NGB-PAC, 5600 Columbia Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041-5125. Entry deadline is Dec. 1, 1985.

A first place cash award of \$2,500 will be made, with cash awards to nine other top entries. Winning entries will become the property of Department of the Army for use on posters and in other publication.

Entry forms for the contest have been shipped to the state publications center. For more information on contest rules, contact Capt. Frank Mattingly by calling 502-564-8554 or writing Editor, Bluegrass Guard, Boone National Guard Center, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

## PHILIPPINE DEFENDERS RECEIVE BRONZE STARS

(Continued from Page 1)

Wellman praised the men as "courageous soldiers who became as brothers, thus earning the honored title of 'brother soldiers'."

Soldiers who were honored were: Pvt. William E. Blacketer (accepted by his brother J.T. Blacketer), PFC Robert V. Cloyd (accepted by his brother Tommy Cloyd), Cpl. John L. Cummins (accepted by his sister Mrs. Eva Meeks), Sgt. Osker Dean (accepted by his sister Imogene Crawford), Sgt. James W. Durr (accepted by his mother Mary Rose Blacketer), Cpl. Lonnie L. Gray (accepted by his daughter Nancy Lou Murphy), PFC Wesley D. Hungate (accepted by his niece Jerri Bannister), Technician 4th grade Birchell Keeling (accepted by his brother James C. Keeling), SSgt. Richard T. Leake (accepted by his wife Mary G. Leake), Pvt. Joe B. Million (accepted by his sister Wilma Jenkins), Sgt. Haze F. Sallee (accepted by his sister-in-law Allene Gordon), Sgt. Herbert Steele (accepted by his wife Sally Ann Steele Hourigan), Cpl. Marvin D. Taylor (accepted by his sister Alma L. Hartlauf), Sgt. Jessie L. Tomes (accepted by his son John Tomes), Sgt. Claude L. Yeast (accepted by his wife, Juanita Yeast), PFC Willard R. Yeast (accepted by his sister Hazel White), and SSgt. Judson D. Simpson (accepted by his father George L. Simpson).

THE BLUEGRASS GUARD is an unofficial, monthly offset publication in which the views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army or The Adjutant General of Kentucky. Authorized under the provisions of AR 360-81, this publication is prepared by the Public Affairs Office, Kentucky National Guard, Boone National Guard Center, Frankfort, KY 40601. Telephone: (502) 564-8554, AV 366-3554.

### KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS

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Managing Editor:  
Capt. Frank Mattingly  
Staff:  
Jean Marie Smith, Typesetter  
Douglas E. Buffin, Printer  
Total copies printed: 9,000



## Kentuckian Named First National Recruiter of the Year

By SFC Chuck Toler

What does a six-time winner of the state National Guard Recruiter of the Year do for an encore? Most appropriately he would be selected as the first winner of National Guard Recruiter of the Year honors for the entire country.

For six of the last 10 years Sgt. 1st Class Don Lawson, of Barbourville, has been in Washington receiving the "Chief's 50" award as the top National Guard recruiter in Kentucky. This, his sixth year, was somewhat exceptional. He again received the "Chief's 50" award, but that only complemented the highest award, which was given for the first time.

Conduct at work, involvement in the community, educational level of recruits, retention rate of recruits, and total number of enlistments were all considered in the selection for the award.

In his modest acceptance of the award, Lawson was quick to give credit to the members of the units for which he recruits. According to Lawson, "Their involvement in the community and dedication to the units makes the job a whole lot easier."

Lawson grew up in the area. His father, Gail, a 32-year veteran of the local police department, and his mother, Mareka, are also Barbourville natives. He was always involved in sports and remains so. He is a Little League baseball coach, and has



Brig. Gen. Robert L. DeZarn of Ashland receives the stars symbolizing his promotion in the Kentucky Army National Guard. Pinning his rank are his wife, Julianne, and Maj. Gen. Billy G. Wellman, the Adjutant General. DeZarn is deputy commander of the State Area Command (STARC). (Photo by Capt. Frank Mattingly)

served as the high school and college tennis coach, basketball coach for the elementary school, and officiates high school and youth football.

"I don't do all those things just for recruiting," he said, "I do it because I like it. It keeps me in touch with the kids. I play ball with them, lift weights with them, and go to nearly all their games. It builds rapport with them as a friend rather than as a recruiter. I never say a word about recruiting unless they bring it up and then I jump on it."

He makes a point to eat lunch in the student center at Union College and

stops by the Knox Central High School cafeteria once or twice a week for a soft drink or coffee. He also works closely with the guidance counselors and financial aid counselors who refer students to him for assistance.

There is no doubt his approach is successful and apparently his fame has spread all the way to Washington where he was referred to as "my sweatshirt recruiter" by Maj. Gen. Herbert R. Temple, Jr., Director of the Army National Guard.

## Conference Brings HR/EO Advisors Together

By Capt. Frank Mattingly

A Human Relations and Equal Opportunity conference was recently held at the Kentucky Military Academy and produced good results, according to Capt. Robert L. Cannon, State Social Action Officer.

More than 30 students and instructors from all battalions and brigades participated in the two-day programs, designed to familiarize the Equal Opportunity Advisors on their responsibilities.

If you have an equal opportunity or human relations problem, see your HR/EO Advisor or contact Cannon, 502-564-8467, or write, EEO, Boone National Guard Center, Frankfort, Ky. 40601.



Mobility is the name of the game for members of Battery B, 623d Field Artillery from Campbellsville during field exercises held at Fort Sill, Okla. Battery B and other units of the 138th Field Artillery Brigade spent nine days in the field conducting firing maneuvers during their annual training. (Photo by Capt. Frank Mattingly)



## Humor

### Real Sergeants

By Maj. Thomas E. Little

Thanks to Bruce Feldstein's book "Real Men Don't Eat Quiche," the world knows all about the "real man." But the truth about the most manly of men, the sergeant, hasn't yet been told. Here are a few hints:

Real Sergeants don't know anyone who doesn't dress in BDU's or who can't tell you what IG, CRI, AT, USP&FO, and MOPP stand for.

Real Sergeants have a coffee pot perched next to their desks, with a tube leading directly from the pot into an arm.

Real Sergeants long for the days when they had C-rations so they would eat fruit cocktail with green metal shavings floating on top of the juice.

A Real Sergeant proposes like this: "There will be a wedding at 1000 hours, 1 September 1985. Be present with your gear packed because you will be a primary participant."

Real Sergeants have BDU wallents, pens, handkerchiefs, and underwear.

Real Sergeants use the term "good training" to describe any miserable task, particularly since they know they won't have to do it.

Real Sergeants don't know the first names of anybody in the unit and call each other "Sarge." They also introduce themselves only by rank and last name.

Real Sergeants fear only property book accountability or the assignment of a new second lieutenant.

Real Sergeants hate vacations, because they interfere with annual training plans.

Real Sergeants remember when they walked four miles to drill through four feet of snow for \$25 a month (or maybe that was Real Fathers walking to school...).

Note: The idea for this story was "borrowed" from some other publications, who swiped it from others, who ...

### BLACK BOOTS

(Continued from Page 2)

Like its predecessor, the smooth-grain leather will require polishing, according to Army officials.

The new boot will be available in 133 sizes, from four to 14 with widths from AA to EEEE.

An optional version of the boot is now on sale in Army military clothing sales at a cost of \$46, but only in 22 new sizes.

## 17 NEW OFFICERS GRADUATE FROM KMA OCS

By Maj. Thomas E. Little

The Kentucky Army Guard gained 17 new officers in June with the graduation of the 1985 Kentucky Military Academy Officers Candidate School Class.

2nd. Lt. Gregory Thompson earned the National Guard Association of Kentucky award for having the top academic average. He also claimed the Physical Fitness Award. Thompson has been assigned to Troop A, 249th Cavalry in Owensboro.

The Association of the U.S. Army Plaque, given to the graduate with the

highest leadership standards went to Class President 2nd. Lt. Lucian Hay.

2nd. Lt. Thomas Mucci, Jr. earned the Commandant's Award for demonstrating the greatest self improvement, and 2nd. Lt. James Cocanougher claimed the Erickson Trophy for overall excellence.

Cocanougher, Hay and 2nd. Lt. Donald Belisle also received state awards for special achievements, and Belisle was given a U.S. flag that has flown over the nation's capitol for being the first honor graduate.

## TOY SAFETY HOT LINE NOW TOLL FREE

By Capt. Frank Mattingly

A new toll-free hot line for questions about the safety of children's toys and furniture has been developed by the Consumer Product Safety Commission. The Commission also offers free pamphlets on Crib Safety, Toy Factsheets, Toy/Sports Equipment Safety Guide and Playground Equipment. You can order these by calling the toll free number 800-638-8326 or by writing Office of Communications, Consumer Product Safety Commission, Washington, D.C. 20207.

## GUARDSMAN GOES TO KOREA IN PROGRAM "KEEPING

By Sgt. J.C. Newton

An area member of the Kentucky National Guard will leave April 13th, for Seoul, South Korea, for two weeks in a National Guard program called "Keeping Up".

Spec. 4 Robert Simmons, a member of the 130th Maintenance Company, based in Walton, will train with regular army troops there, in the program which is designed to enhance guardsman's knowledge of problems they may encounter in different environments.

Simmons, from Cincinnati, said, "I think this will be an excellent opportunity to increase my knowledge of my job and to share some of our techniques with them."

When he does return, on April 27th, from the trip, he will share his experiences with other unit members and work with unit leaders in evaluating their training programs.

**"Discipline is the soul of an army. It makes small numbers formidable; procures success to the weak; and esteem to all."**

— George Washington

**"Diplomacy: The art of jumping into troubled waters without making a splash."**

— Art Linkletter



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