

Gunfighter Gazette



30 NOVEMBER 2007

Volume 1, Issue 7

Inside this issue:

GUNFIGHTER 6/7 SENDS	2
GUNFIGHTER OPS	3
WARFIGHTER TIMES	4
PUNISHER CORNER	5
HOOLOGAN REPORT	6
FROM THE HORSE	7
SOLDIERS' CORNER	8
SOLDIERS' CORNER	9
ROUND UP	10

WEATHER REPORT

DAILY HI TEMP:

78.5 (average)

DAILY LOW TEMP:

52.2 (average)

RAINFALL AMT:

0.00 inches

THE 401ST HAD A CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY FROM JOHN W. COPELAND TO RUDOLPHO A. SANDOVAL ON 2 NOVEMBER 2007.

The Gunfighters Celebrate **THANKSGIVING** & 6 months deployed!



Thanksgiving Dinner... 2nd squad/2nd platoon enjoying the meal.

The Gunfighters have officially crossed their 6 month mark of Operation Iraqi Freedom 07-09. Although at this time it is officially unknown if the 401st will be extended to 15 months - many Gunfighters have taken a moment recently to reflect on their deployment so far.

From May 14th when the company said good-bye to its home station back at Fort Hood and it's Soldiers said good-bye to their loved ones - its been a rollercoaster ride and we have maintained not only the Gunfighter standard but the Gauntlet standard as well.

With the loss of 3 Gunfighters, mortar attacks, extreme heat, long hours, and an up-beat mission tempo the company has definitely been battle hardened. Their experience has been gained through trial and tribulations - through the experiences of its Soldiers.

But, this Thanksgiving - we all take a minute to count our blessings, take thanks in what we have and remember what we have waiting for us all back at in the United States. As we cross this potential hump in our deployment we look back at the last 6 months and wipe the sweat from our brow and continue to march forward in our mission to help the struggling Iraqi Police forces.

All the Gunfighters would like to take a moment and thank you, the family members, loved ones and Soldiers of the rear detachment who help us forward each and every day. From all of us here at Camp Liberty, we thank you and wish you all a safe and Happy Holiday season!



At the DFAC... PFC Johnson (left) and CPT Musgrave are seen at the dining facility on Thanksgiving day.

****NOTE: THE 401ST WOULD LIKE TO EXTEND AN INVITATION FOR YOU TO SEND YOUR QUESTIONS/COMMENTS ABOUT THE DEPLOYMENT AND UNIT DIRECTLY TO SPC WOMACK - david.s.womack@us.army.mil - THE GUNFIGHTER GAZETTE WILL PUBLISH A SELECT FEW OF THEM IN DECEMBER'S ISSUE WITH THE ANSWERS FROM THE COMMANDER AND FIRST SERGEANT! HERE IS YOUR CHANCE TO ASK!!!**

GUNFIGHTER 6 SENDS

CPT RUDY A. SANDOVAL



Gunfighters, Gunfighter Families, and friends of the Gunfighters, I am thoroughly excited and thrilled to finally be a member of the Gunfighter team! Let me give you a quick introduction of myself. I am CPT Rudy Sandoval and I am humbled and honored to inherit the call sign, Gunfighter 6. I was born in South Bend, Indiana and raised in San Antonio, Texas. I graduated from the University of Notre Dame and entered the military in May 2000. This is my fourth deployment to the Middle East (one in Israel, one in Kuwait, and two in Iraq) and my second command in Baghdad, Iraq. Both of my parents are professors in San Antonio, Texas; my father teaches law and my mom teaches nursing. I have one sister who is finishing her final year at Columbia Law School. And of course I



At the ready...CPT Sandoval (center) with SGT Seli (left) and interpreter Keane (right).

can't forget my English Bulldog named Nacho.

I want each of you to know every Soldier in the 401st MP CO continues to do an exemplary job each and every day while conducting our Police Transition Team mission in Mansour and Abu Ghraib districts. Immediately after taking command I asked each of the platoons and headquarters sections to brief me on their daily duties and mission status. Impressive and inspiring are the two words that immediately came to mind when I received the briefs. Their tenacious work ethic and dedication to their mission were immediately evident during the briefs and emphasized when I visited the squads at each of the Iraqi Police stations. See CDR page 9

GUNFIGHTER 7 SENDS

ISG BRIAN A. FLOM



Hello to the Gunfighter Family!!!!

Well, I am happy to say that I have finally completed my recovery and returned to the Soldiers in Iraq. It was great to see all the Soldiers again. They look good and have been continuing to do great things on the battlefield. I continue to make my rounds amongst the Soldiers and must say that I am highly impressed with their morale and high spirits as we get closer to the half way point of our deployment.

With the holidays upon us, I would like to take a brief moment to address safety. The holidays are a time of year that brings happiness and joy to most people. Every year there are unfortunate accidents that result in tragedy that can never be undone. Many people that are affected by these tragedies are simply innocent victims caught in someone else's poor choices.

With that being said, I ask that everyone exercise their best judgment with everything that they do and be on the lookout for those that do not. For those that are fortunate enough to have their Soldier home, I hope that you enjoy the time with them. For those not so fortunate, hopefully you are able to be around family and friends and make



Awarded the Purple Heart...ISG Flom and General Petraeus—the MNF-I Commander. GEN Petraeus awarded the Purple Heart to the ISG

the best of the circumstances.

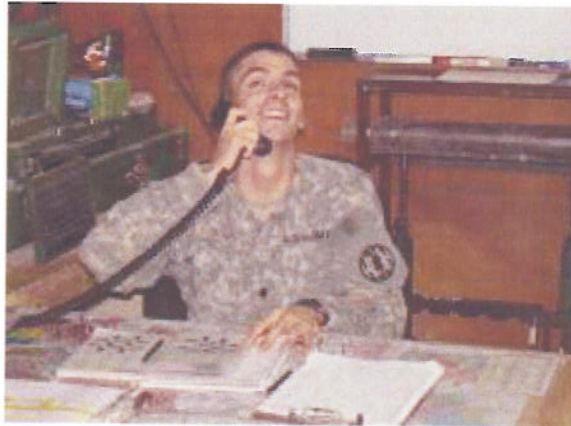
I want to advise everyone of the Army One Source. This is a valuable resource available for those that may want to talk to someone about some concerns that they may be having. It is available 24/7 to all Soldiers and family members to provide assistance in anyway possible. The telephone number is (800) 464-8107. One plus about this is that you can remain totally anonymous and still get the help you need. Additionally, when you call, there is a person that answers the phone without having to navigate through a phone tree menu. Please don't hesitate to use this free service.

I want to thank everyone for the support that they provided me during my recovery, especially my wife and my mother. I love you both. I also want to give a special thanks to MSG Keene and MSG Fleser

See ISG...page 9

OPERATIONS

The 401st Operations cell continues to perform above and beyond what is expected from them this deployment. The Operations cell, temporarily guided by MSG Fleser and SFC Williams continues to battle track over 75 combat day and night missions, to include Police Transition Team missions, Commanders escorts, joint patrols and check points twenty-four hours a day while forward deployed. SSG Kriska has recently taken over as the PTT Manager for 12 Iraqi Police Stations. SSG Hughes has stepped up to a new level in standing in as the L&O for the company while SFC Senior is on R&R leave. SGT Thompson and SPC Andersen have continued to work above and beyond in their jobs. This month has been filled with change of command inventories and longer hours for our Soldiers, they have responded well and gave us 110% the whole time. Great Job



The Happy RTO...SPC True, the Swing shift RTO shows his spirits during a quiet evening in the TOC.



OPS... SFC Williams and SSG Cameron review some notes in the Tactical Operations Center (TOC).

THE 401ST HAD A CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY ON 2 NOVEMBER 2007. THE GUNFIGHTERS SAID GOOD-BYE TO CPT JOHN W. COPELAND THE OUTGOING COMMANDER AND WELCOMED CPT RODOLPHO (RUDY) A. SANDOVAL THE INCOMING COMMANDER. THE 401ST WISHES CPT COPELAND THE BEST IN HIS FUTURE ENDEAVORS AND WELCOMES CPT SANDOVAL TO THE GUNFIGHTER FAMILY.



Passing the Guidon... CPT Copeland receives the Guidon from MSG Keene before he turns it over to LTC Cosby.

The Opening remarks... CPT Sandoval speaks to the Gunfighters for the first time as Gunfighter 6.



GUNFIGHTER GAZETTE

401st Military Police Company, Fort Hood, Texas 76544

The Gunfighter Gazette is a Soldier produced newsletter designed for and distributed to the families, friends and Soldiers associated with the 401st Military Police Company while deployed to Operation Iraqi Freedom 07-09. The opinions in this newsletter are not those of the United States Army, the United States Department of Defense or the United States of America. The opinions expressed in this newsletter are those solely of the Soldiers of the 401st Military Police Company. If you have questions or comments about this newsletter you may contact: SPC David S. Womack, 401s MP CO. david.s.womack@us.army.mil

This is a monthly publication distributed to the families care of the Family Readiness Group. You may contact the Family Readiness Group: (254) 287 - 2431 Bldg 16003, Fort Hood, Texas 76544

The Soldiers of the 401st Military Police Company sincerely thank you for your support! To mail a letter or package to your deployed Soldier please use the provided address:

PVT Lastname, Firstname III
92ND MP BN
401 MP CO
APO AE 09342

401st Military Police Company
92nd Military Police Battalion
18th Military Police Brigade

1st PLATOON

The WARFIGHTER times

PLATOON SERGEANT: SFC ZILA

PLATOON LEADER: ILT LYNCH



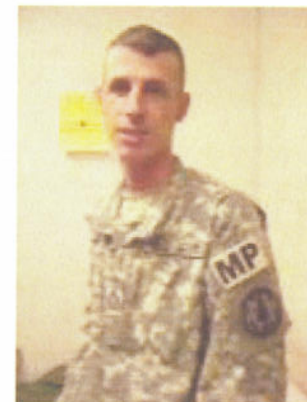
Always First, Warfighters! The past month has been a very busy month for the First Platoon Warfighters. Soldiers have been completing daily missions, and assisting the Iraqi Police in greater numbers. The Warfighters led the way in updating databases with information, ensuring that hundreds of Iraqi Police are being paid, equipped, trained, and ready to provide security for Iraq. Soldiers have also been busy increasing their knowledge and skills through training and Soldier of the Month Boards. Specialist Anthony Boike, First Platoon, Third Squad, won the Soldier of the Month Board on November 16th. He will be attending a promotion board and a Company Soldier of the Quarter Board in December. The Warfighters all wish him the best of luck and have confidence in his knowledge and skills.

Soldiers have also been engaged in off-duty activities, such as flag football. Many Soldiers from First Platoon are partaking in the Company flag football team. Like PFC Brandon Reddell, First Platoon, Second Squad says, "The Warfighters work hard and play hard!" However, the missions always come first. After all, the Warfighter's Motto, coined by Sergeant Paul Adams, is "Mission, Soldier, Self!"

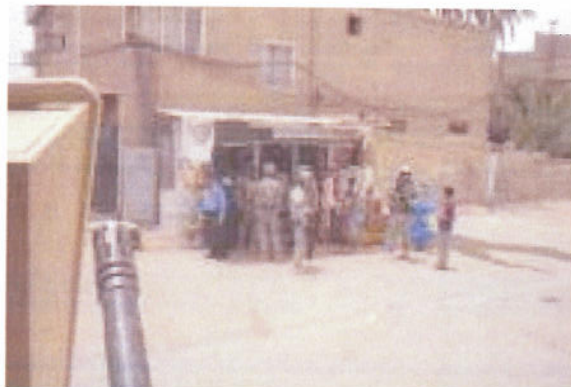
Specialist Ian Nielson of First Platoon, Third Squad: "It's hard work sometimes over here in Iraq, but now that the weather's getting nicer, I'm having a pretty awesome time. Who knows? Maybe I'll even retire someday and move here."



Corporal John Wathen of First Platoon, Second Squad: "I just want to say Hi to my wife, Angela, and two sons, Shaine and Aiden. I love you and miss you, and I'll be home soon."



LEFT: SPC Mancino and PFC Scott-Lee take a moment to adjust their patches. **RIGHT:** PFC Steffy spends a moment with ALI a local IP leader's son.



LEFT: Soldier's from 1st squad conduct a walking patrol and visit a local store. **RIGHT:** SFC Zila cracks a smile just a moment before pre-convoy notes.





2nd PLATOON

The PUNISHER corner

PLATOON LEADER: ILT MARTINEZ
PLATOON SERGEANT: SFC SMITH

Hello Punisher Family,

The Punisher's started the Holiday Season off with a great Turkey meal at the chow hall. It may not be home, but the chow hall really out did itself. Two squads started Thanksgiving conducting missions at their Iraqi Police stations but came back in a little early to enjoy the day. Although most of us can not be at home for Thanksgiving, you can take comfort in the fact that we are a close platoon and take care of each other. We also went to the after Thanksgiving sale at the PX on Friday (Not). The Punishers did an outstanding job in spearheading indoctrination training to about 1400 new IP's and starting out 3 new Iraqi Police stations their Grand Opening being 1 DEC 07. As you watch the news and see the security situation getting better in Baghdad you should know that our Soldiers have worked hard to do their part in the security success. From me and all of the Soldiers over here we hope you have a great Holiday Season.

Punisher 6, out!

PFC Austin Lidgett - 1st Squad. "Hi mom and dad! Even though we do work long hours here its not that bad at all. I'll be home before you know it."



SPC Kevin Hamelin -3rd Squad. "To my wife Sara and my son Damian - Happy Thanksgiving and I pray you have a very Merry Christmas. I love you both very much. See you soon."



LEFT: Soldiers from 2nd squad assist the IP's in constructing a temporary arms room. **RIGHT:** Soldiers are seen pulling security at a local IP checkpoint.



LEFT: Soldiers from 3rd squad are seen assisting Gunfighter commo with the re-trans site at JSS Luzon. **RIGHT:** SPC Hamelin assists an IP at his checkpoint.



3rd PLATOON

PLATOON LEADER: 2LT WALTER

PLATOON SERGEANT: SFC DECKER

A HOOLIGAN REPORT

With all of the change of command inventories over with, life as normal has returned here to Camp Liberty and the 3rd Platoon "Hooligans". The Soldiers of 2nd and 3rd Squads have resumed a full mission schedule, working with their Iraqi Police counterparts, ensuring that they are able to work on their own. 1st Squad continues its mission of escorting the new commander, CPT Sandoval, throughout the company's battle space. The platoons area of responsibility has been quiet for the last several months, but all of the Soldiers realize that they are still in a combat zone and take each and every mission seriously.

PFC Matthew J. Bale (1st Squad) - "To all my friends and family back home, I miss you and have a Merry Christmas."



PFC John Washburn (3rd Squad) - "I just want my family to know that I Love and Miss them, I hope that they have a Happy Holiday season."



Left: SGT Seli, 1st Squad Leader, conducts his pre-mission battle drills. **Right:** SPC Rollins checks to make sure his 240B machine gun is ready for mis-



Left: SGT Holland conducts a pre-mission brief before his squad rolls out. **Right:** SPC Montalvan-Alamo conducts routine maintenance on his vehicle.





FROM THE HORSE: A WORKHORSE report

PLATOON SERGEANT:
SSG GARTH JOHNSON

The 401st Military Police Company Headquarters Platoon "WORKHORSE" do and maintain a lot of things, whether its to set up retrains sites so you can communicate to each other to getting the Gunfighters food for missions. These hard working Soldiers ensure that the Military Police Soldiers have all they need for every mission. From the sections of Communications, Maintenance, Admin, Food Service, Supply, Medical and Operations. These groups of supporters are the unsung heroes of the 401st Military Police Company. We are the ones that are behind the scenes that make it all happen before and after missions even helping the Military Police Soldiers on missions. There is no job to big or too small that these groups of supporters can't handle. The Workhorse Soldiers are the best Soldiers I have worked with in a long time. They get very little recognition and still they get up and do the job everyday. Twenty-four hours a day seven days a week a Workhorse Soldier is always on the job supporting you.

The Workhorse welcomes the newest Gunfighter to the family CPT Rodolpho A. Sandoval (GF6) welcome to the Workhorse family we will be looking forward to your leadership, guidance and your wisdom. Finally the Workhorse bids a fond farewell to CPT John W. Copeland. Thank you for you wisdom and your leadership the workhorse family will miss you. Good luck to you and your family in all your endeavors.



Working hard...From Left: SSG Johnson, CPT Sandoval (back), and CPT Musgrave are seen in the division chapel.

PFC Dennis Anton - PAC. "Hello, to everyone back home. Just want to send some love to everyone this holiday season hope that every thing is ok. I miss you all take care."



The 5 Ton...SGT Mogos is seen in the Company 5 ton vehicle during a class I draw for the platoons.



Maintenance..SGT Tompkins is seen talking to SSG Teklinski about the proper PMCS procedures for an M1114.



the SOLDIERS corner

The last 6 months...



LEFT: Kuwait training. Seen is the roll-over simulator for the M1114 HMMWV. **RIGHT:** HQ platoon in-front of the 401st t-barrier at Camp Buehring, Kuwait.



LEFT: The Transfer of Authority Ceremony held in June at Camp Liberty from the 410th to the 401st. **RIGHT:** PFC Joshua and PFC Bobb at 401st deployment ceremony. The two were Killed In Action on 17 July 2007.



LEFT: SPC Kamisha J. Block at her trailer, she was tragically lost on 16 August 2007. **RIGHT:** The 401st t-barrier in-front of the Tactical Operations Center at Camp Liberty, Iraq.



LEFT: PTT - Police Transition Team - the Company trains Iraqi police during its first 6 months of its mission in Iraq. **RIGHT:** Change of Command ceremony from CPT Copeland to CPT Sandoval.



NOVEMBER 2007

CONGRATULATIONS GUNFIGHTERS

NOVEMBER PROMOTIONS:

To First Lieutenant:

2LT Martinez

2LT Lynch

To Staff Sergeant:

SGT Kari Adams

To Sergeant:

SPC Bobby Cruz

SPC Heather Bass

BIRTHDAYS

PFC Busch SPC Detinne

PFC Gholson PFC Johnson

SPC Mancino SPC Mitchell

SPC Overton SPC Perez

SGT Thompson

SGT Tompkins



*'Demonstrate Lawfulness
'Throughout the World'*

NOVEMBER AWARDS

PURPLE HEART:

1SG FLOM

SGT WOMACK

SGT PARSONS

SPC MANCINO

PFC GREEN

GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL:

SGT AMENT

SGT MOGOS

CDR...from page 2

Each week I am reminded of the professionalism and perseverance of these Soldiers when I meet with Battalion Commanders who interact daily with the Soldiers; I've already been told numerous times these commanders wished they could call the Gunfighters "their own."

Finally, I would be remised if I did not mention the importance of the Family Readiness Group (FRG). I know there are many family members who would like to be involved in some way whether it's volunteering a couple of hours assisting our rear detachment or sending simple e-mails to family members updating them of the company's progress. I ask that each of you please contact our rear detachment commander, Master Sergeant John Arceneaux, who has done a phenomenal job supporting the unit. The FRG is as strong as you make it and we will always be forever grateful to each of you for supporting us during this deployment.

Soldiers of the Warfighters, Punishers, Hooligans, and Workhorse platoons hope all of our families and friends had a Happy Thanksgiving Day!

1SG...from page 2

For doing a great job in holding down the fort during my absence.

I wish everyone a Happy and Safe Holiday!!! Until next time.....ALWAYS FIRST!!!!

1SG Brian Flom

HERO OF THE MONTH:

SPC Aaron Detinne

SUSTAINER OF THE MONTH:

PFC Moriah Johnson

SOLDIER of THE MONTH:

SPC Anthony L. Boike

NCO of THE MONTH:

SGT DeMario Woods

We thank you daily for all of your prayers and support as we continue to do our mission in Baghdad.

My door/e-mail is always open should any of you need to contact me.

Gunfighter 6 reporting for duty!

THE 401ST WISHES ALL OF THE GUNFIGHTER FAMILIES, FRIENDS, LOVED ONES, AND THE REAR DETACHMENT A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!

Rear Detachment Commander—Round Up Web Page Up and Running

MSG Arceneaux

I come bearing good news at the start of the Holiday Season.

We finally have a web site and a fledgling home page for the 401st MP Company. This has come about from hard work by the Chain of Command in the 720th MP Battalion, forward and rear; Kisha Yates, 89th MP Brigade Family Readiness Support Advisor; SPC Anna Harris, 720th MP Battalion (Rear) S-6; and Silvia Detinne and myself.

I invite you to register and use this site to keep abreast of the latest news and information about the Soldiers of the 401st MP Company, FRG announcements and events and activi-

ties happening in the local area.

ArmyFRG.org is sponsored MWR Command and the site meets requirements defined by the Department of Defense Information Technology Security Certification and Accreditation Process.

ArmyFRG.org is your direct connection to Command information for your unit.

Silvia Detinne and myself are learning how to manipulate the information that will be available to you. We will also accept any suggestions you may have for information and resources you would like to be made available

in this forum.


This will be a great tool for us to spread the word within our group. It is a basic web page building system; so don't expect a grand design like a professionally built page or something on Myspace.com.

It is sufficient for getting information out and as Silvia and I learn more about the system it will get better.

Things you will find are links to resources, news articles, Gunfighter Gazette downloads, current announcements, FAQs, Unit and FRG pictures and a calendar.

See Web Page pg. 11

DECEMBER 2007

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7 Pearl Harbor	8 Spouse Retreat
9 Spouse Retreat	10 Fundraiser	11	12	13	14	15
16 FUMC Party	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24 Christmas Eve	25 	26	27	28	29
30	31 New Year's Eve					

8-9 - Deployed Spouse Retreat at Lampassas, TX sponsored by Tyson's Corner Retreat Center and the Ft. Hood Chaplains Office; contact Amanda Arceneaux for more information

10 - 12:00- 3:00 pm FRG Fundraiser, Christmas Present Wrapping at the Clear Creek PX ; contact your Key Spouse for more information.

16 - First United Methodist Church Children's Christmas Party - FUMC our Adopt-A-Unit Sponser has invited our Families especially with kids 12 and under to join them. The party starts at 5:00 pm at their Fellowship Hall 508 N. Gray St., Killeen; RSVP with Amanda Arceneaux by 07 December

Nature in Lights at BLORA is now open daily from 5:00 - 9:00 pm.. Go to www.hoodmwr.com for more information.

401st Military Police Company

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"Always First"
Supporting the
Gunfighter Posse:

Register Now at
www.armyfrg.org

Web Page... from pg. 10

Since this is a site developed and supported by DOD; certain controls are emplaced to ensure access is granted to Soldiers, Family and Friends of the 401st MP Company.

First step was to develop the database of Soldiers assigned to the unit which has been completed.

The next step is to get Soldiers and FRG Members subscribed. There are two ways to do this.

1st option: Soldier Sponsered

Soldier subscription to the web site and adding / inviting those members the Soldier wishes to sponsor. The steps for doing this have been provided to the unit and hopefully Soldiers will start the ball rolling.; because this is the easiest way to ensure immediate access to the site.

2nd option: Self Register

1. Go to www.armyfrg.org

2. Click "Register Here"
3. Select "Texas" from the display map
4. Scroll down to Fort Hood Community and then 720th MP Battalion
5. Select subscribe as a Family Member
6. Enter information in the blocks provided

You will need to know Soldiers Name as shown on the official roles (Christopher not Chris) and last four of the Soldiers SSN.

7. If Soldier is found in database you will complete registration by entering more information.

The Site Administrator will be notified of the request and access will be granted after verification.

8. If Soldier is not found in the data-

base a prompt will go to the Site Administrator of Soldier not found. This may happen due to error of inputting information (misspelling, transposing, etc...) or error on subscribers part.

If you are self registering it may take up to 3-5 business days for the Site Administrator to verify that the Soldier is willing to sponsor your access.

The Site Administrator is located here on Ft. Hood but contact with the unit and the Soldier must be made before authorizing access.

With all that technical information said; encourage your Soldier to subscribe first and add you to their invite list.

Either way every effort will be made to get you into the site and viewing the information available.

See you on the net soon!!

... and Happy Holidays from mine to yours.

Kid's Corral

Color the Pictures



FRG Bowl-a-rama Extravaganza - 29 NOV 2007



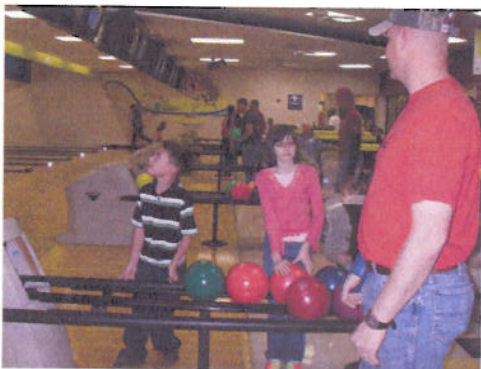
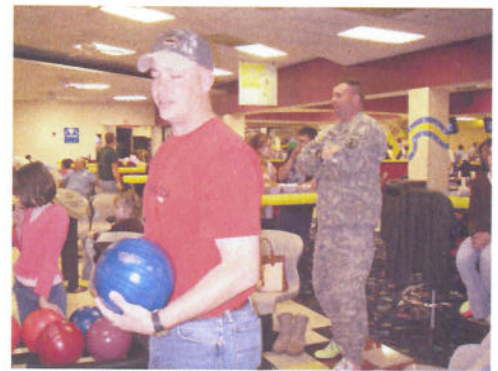
L: MSG Arceneaux sporting the new boots for the ACU as the FRG assembles and watches the action in progress.

R: Meaghan Arceneaux gets some pointers from her mom, Amanda, before taking a shot.



L: Macey Stanifer celebrates her score with her sister, Olivia, as Monika Flom waits to go.

R: SGT Purser on EML from Iraq joined in the fun to show us how it is done.



L: Brayden Keene looks at his score while Alex Flom gets ready to go.

R: Gina Stanifer talking over the finer points of spectating than participating.



L: Ross Claudio watching on as the games commence.

R: Brayden Keene watches as his ball rolls down the lane.

