



NORTH DAKOTA GUARDIAN

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Also Inside:
**Survivors
Seminar**
**Predator
Milestone**

Happy Homecoming

KFOR 12 Returns
After Yearlong
Peacekeeping Mission

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

FEATURES



4 Family Support

The second in a three-part series on TAPS, members of the N.D. National Guard travel to Washington, D.C., as support staff at the TAPS National Seminar. Read how North Dakota cares for their Families of the Fallen by assisting them in attending this moving national event.



6 No Place Like Home

After a year of conducting peacekeeping operations in Kosovo, the Soldiers of KFOR 12 return home to their Families and friends. The historic mission was the largest single deployment for the N.D. National Guard since the Korean War.



10 Straight Shooters

Marksmen from the N.D. Army and Air National Guard aim rifles and pistols downrange at Camp Grafton South during the Adjutant General's Marksmanship Match. See which team stayed on target to rise above the others during the two-day competition.

DEPARTMENTS

Guardian Snapshots pg. 8
 News Briefs pg. 14
 Sound Off! pg. 15



NORTH DAKOTA GUARDIAN

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ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

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 Digital photos should be at least 300 dpi.

On the Cover



Reunion: Sgt. Bryan Hovland, of the 231st Maneuver Task Force, is surrounded by his family as they greet him upon his return to Fargo, N.D. after a yearlong deployment to Kosovo July 23. He was one of about 650 North Dakota Guardsman mobilized in August 2009 for a NATO peacekeeping mission in Kosovo. (Photo by Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp)

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VIEW FROM THE TOP

Comments from North Dakota National Guard Leadership

Suicide's Permanence and Lasting Repercussions

I recently returned from the 2010 Air National Guard Executive Safety Summit. I took away several key points, some humorous and some deadly serious!

Question: What is becoming the number one killer of our troops?

Answer: Suicide!

Not only is suicide a "last act," but it is also multifaceted. In addition to taking a unit member away forever, it leaves a permanent scar in the thoughts and minds of those who are left behind.

Suicide is increasingly becoming a more threatening killer of our troops than the war. It is an act that can reach any one of us, at any time. It can permeate all barriers, social and economical.

What can we do to lessen or attempt to eliminate this act? We can help our military members get the help that they need. Listed within this article are some helpful phone numbers that can be used by members in need of assistance or who want help. If a military member doesn't want to talk to their supervisor, their

family or friends, these resources will give the member someone to talk to, or get assistance, before they take that last non-retractable step.

Why is understanding the repercussions of suicide important to you as members of the N.D. National Guard? Just ask, or better yet *listen* to, someone who has been involved with a suicide. It leaves a void, a vacuum, a *hole* right through the center of their heart that nothing can fill.

Having listened to other unit members who have experienced such pain, you can tell immediately when they begin to discuss what happened; they slip back to the time of the event. The thoughts, emotions, feelings, senses ... everything is vivid and clear, like it just happened.

Let's take it a step further; the actual event of dealing with the emotions of knowing someone who took their life is bad enough, but these same colleagues, subordinates or peers may be working on a task for you. They are present *physically*, but not *mentally* when something



Lt. Col. Alan Hull
 119th Wing Chief of Safety
 North Dakota National Guard

triggers memories of the suicide and they are thinking back to the day. They are *physically* present, but *mentally* they are exactly where they were that fatal day. You are expecting them to drive, tighten a bolt, fly a mission — something time critical. In the time they are *absent*, you have now lost not only the task at hand, but perhaps that extra safety filter you are expecting your unit member to perform. Let's say they get summoned away immediately by a higher priority or simply distracted by something; that task which they were supposed to perform has now gone missing. Maybe it won't show up today, tomorrow, or next week, but that missing step will eventually rear itself and become visible, hopefully not to the detriment of anyone, but you never know.

Suicide not only leaves a hole forever in the individual, but it will take a member of your unit out of the "game" at perhaps the most inopportune time; a time when you can *least* afford it. To avoid this situation, not only do we want to help those individuals contemplating suicide, we need to listen and help those of us who have already been through the loss.

Take suicide prevention seriously. If you don't, the effects will not only last through the current days, it will affect your unit's members throughout their lifetime, and perhaps the lifetime of their children and their children's children.

Sincerely,

Lt. Col. Alan Hull

Finding Help is a Phone Call Away

CHAPLAINS:

Chaplain (Maj.) David Johnson, (W) 701-333-3006, (C) 701-425-4673, 1-800-317-4302 (Bismarck Area)
 Chaplain (Lt. Col.) John Flowers, (W) 701-451-2679 (Fargo Area)
 Chaplain (Col.) William Ziegler, (C) 701-261-4958 (Fargo Area)

SOCIAL WORKERS:

Bernadette Ternes, (W) 1-333-3352, (C) 701-226-2905, 1-800-317-4302 (Bismarck Area)
 Jane Johnson, (W) 701-451-6093, (C) 701-866-7933 (Fargo Area)
 Carolyn Henderson, (W) 701-333-3351, (C) 701-371-6573 (State-wide)
 Angie Christensen, (W) 701-451-6078, (C) 701-799-9704 (Fargo Area)
 Dr. Alan Fehr, (W) 701-225-1050, (C) 701-590-0136 state Psychologist, (State-wide)

Military One Source - 1-800-342-9647

211 - an immediate resource referral service connecting you to local agencies, social workers, etc (www.211nd.org)

1-800-273-TALK (8255) – press 1 for Vets (Suicide Hotline) or 1-800-799-4889 (Suicide Prevention LifeLine)

Ace "Buddy" Card - www.army.mil/-images/2009/01/13/28252/

** If you come across someone who is suicidal, do not hesitate to call 911 if immediate help is needed.

Somebody Heroes Come Together to Support Their Guardsmen to Lean On

Second in a three-part series on the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors

By Capt. Penny Ripperger
119th Wing

There are many types of heroes. There are heroes whose mission in life is to reach out and help those in need and there are other heroes who have overcome insurmountable grief and now use their experience to help others.

The Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors, or TAPS, National Seminar took place in Washington, D.C., over Memorial Day weekend. It's an event that brings together a multitude of these types of heroes in all shapes and sizes, to include the Families of fallen military members and support staff from the N.D. National Guard.

Supporting the Need

This year, Jane Johnson, Bernadette Ternes, Angie Christensen and Jessica Clark-Woinarowicz, all from the N.D. National Guard, attended as support staff for the TAPS National Seminar. Johnson, Ternes and Christensen are full-time licensed social workers with the N.D. National Guard's Office of the Chaplain. In addition, Father Dave Zimmer, a pastor with St. John the Apostle Church in Minot, attended as a supportive member for the Families attending the event.

"While I love working with all Soldiers and Airmen, one of the most rewarding parts of my job is working with the Families of our fallen. I can't imagine spending a Memorial Day weekend without being at TAPS," Johnson said.

Johnson attended the TAPS National Seminar for the first time in 2005 and she has been back every year since, making this year her sixth year in a row.

"The first year I was asked to go I

remember thinking, 'Great, I'm going to spend my Memorial Day weekend crying,'" Johnson said.

It was an especially emotional time for her because she had lost her father, a WWII Veteran, the previous year on May 26.

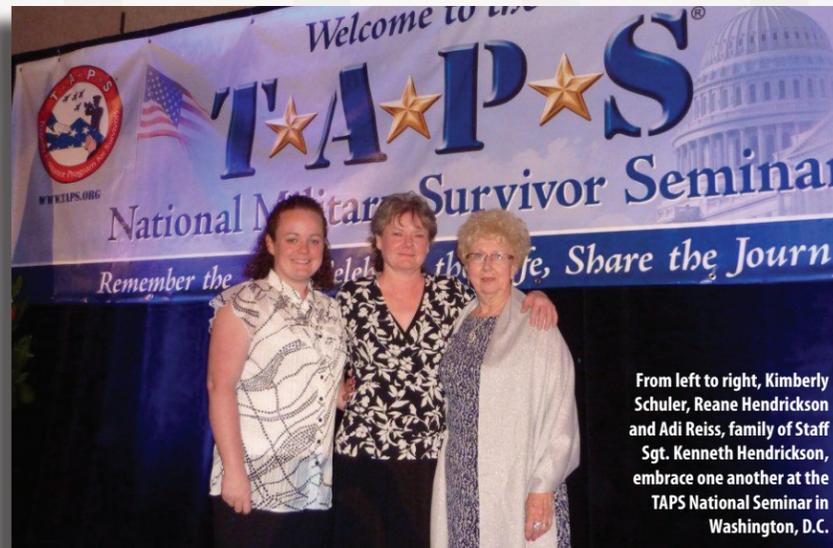
"I was hesitant to go because I wanted to be home with my family for that first anniversary of his death. Now looking back, it was the best place I could have been. I came back from that first TAPS seminar energized; I couldn't stop talking about it. Sure, we did cry, but we also laughed," Johnson said.

In 2005, five people with the N.D. National Guard attended the TAPS National Seminar. This year, eight Families, to include 28 family members and five support staff from the N.D. National Guard, attended the event.

"TAPS is a place where our Families fit in. They don't need to explain how they are feeling or what they are thinking because everyone attending is experiencing the same thing. Whether it's your first time attending or your sixth, there is something to learn and experience," Johnson said. "Our Families say that knowing they will be attending TAPS is what gets them through the year, the long winters, the anniversaries."



Support staff and family members from the N.D. National Guard come together for the TAPS National Seminar in Washington, D.C., over Memorial Day weekend 2010.



From left to right, Kimberly Schuler, Reane Hendrickson and Adi Reiss, family of Staff Sgt. Kenneth Hendrickson, embrace one another at the TAPS National Seminar in Washington, D.C.

Courtesy Photos

TAPS is described by many who attend as a program that helps people by connecting them to others who have gone through or are going through similar experiences. It gives Families the chance to connect and grieve together.

"Families have the opportunity to hear wonderful speakers, experts in their fields ranging from knowing about their survivor benefits to dealing with grief and all the topics in between," Christensen said.

The application process for North Dakota Families to attend the conference has evolved over the years, but the dedication that the N.D. National Guard has toward its military members has not faltered since the first year the organization began taking part in the program.

"Since 2005, our state (North Dakota) has been one of the only states to pay for family members of fallen military

members to attend the event. The reason Families are able to go is through donations from organizations, businesses and individuals that support the Families of our fallen service members (through the N.D. National Guard Foundation at www.ndguard.ngb.army.mil/jointforce/northdakotationalguardfoundation)," Johnson said. "That's a true testament of how the community and the N.D. National Guard look out for its members. If Family members want to attend this event, we'll get them there."

Sacrifice for Freedom

The N.D. National Guard began a Sacrifice for Freedom event in 2008, which honors N.D. Families of fallen service members with beautiful memorials made by Michael Letney, with Letney Designs, based out of Oklahoma.

"The Sacrifice for Freedom event is usually held the day of or the day before the Families fly out to attend the TAPS National Conference in Washington, D.C.," Clark-Woinarowicz said. "By pairing the events together, the majority of the Families have the opportunity to fly out together."

This year was Christensen's first year attending TAPS, and as a new social worker in the program she was amazed and awed by the generosity of the North Dakota Families.

"I met a couple of the moms at the airport for the first time ever and they both just threw their arms around me and squeezed. That's just how these Families are, so open and welcoming," Christensen said.

This year the Sacrifice for Freedom event took place on May 26 at the North Dakota Heritage Center in Bismarck, N.D. Six Families received memorials and 35 family members attended a dinner at Maj. Gen. David Sprynczynatyk's, N.D. National Guard adjutant general, home afterward.

"After supper, we walked over to the Global War on Terror Memorial for a Candlelight Memorial where Families were able to share stories of their loved ones," Clark-Woinarowicz said.

In addition to the Sacrifice for Freedom event, the N.D. National Guard has a goal of implementing a regional TAPS seminar within the state.

"We are hoping to be on the TAPS docket for a North Dakota retreat either next year or in 2012. It would be wonderful to be able to have a regional event because we would be able to bring in not only the Global War on Terror Families, but also Families of all war conflicts as well as battle buddies who may still be grieving and suffering with the loss of their comrades," Clark-Woinarowicz said. ■



The family of Spc. Jon Paul Fetting, from left to right, Robin Sherwood, Craig Fetting, Larry Fetting and Shirley Fetting enjoys some time together at the TAPS National Seminar.



Joely Goodiron, left, spends time with her mentor at the TAPS Good Grief camp. Joely is the daughter of Cpl. Nathan Goodiron who was killed in action in Afghanistan November 2006.

After spending nearly a year away from home performing a peacekeeping mission in Kosovo as part of the Kosovo Force (KFOR) 12, hundreds of N.D. National Guard Soldiers are now back with their family and friends. A series of flights from demobilization stations in Indiana and Georgia brought nearly 500 Soldiers home July 22-28.

"I'm glad to be here to greet this fantastic group of Soldiers. They performed wonderfully while in Kosovo, and it is great to see them reuniting with their Families who have also served tirelessly throughout this deployment," said Maj. Gen. David Sprynczynatyk, N.D. National Guard adjutant general. Sprynczynatyk and other senior leaders greeted Soldiers landing in Camp Atterbury, Ind., before their demobilization process and after coming home to North Dakota.

About 650 N.D. Guardsman mobilized in August 2009 for the NATO peacekeeping mission in Kosovo. While there, they served in Multi-National Battle Group East (MNBG-E), a U.S.-led contingent of about 1,200 military members from the United States, Greece, Poland, Romania and Turkey. Commanded by Brig. Gen. Al Dohrmann, of Bismarck, N.D., MNBG-E was unique because of the vast amount of nations that were involved in the mission.

"It was the most rewarding multi-cultural military partnership I will ever have in my career," said Maj. Davina French, planner with MNBG-E. "I worked with more than 25 nations building relationships and we worked together toward a common goal. It was a once-in-a-lifetime experience that I will always remember."

About 150 Soldiers from North Dakota returned in May. Those that returned early



Spc. Shanna R. Newark, of Fargo, N.D., is filled with emotion as she hugs her children upon her return to Fargo.

Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp

KFOR RETURNS

BY STAFF SGT. BILLIE JO LORUIS
JOINT FORCE HEADQUARTERS

were impacted by changes in troop levels as the mission transitioned to KFOR 13.

The remaining 500 demobilized at Camp Atterbury, Ind., while a smaller

group comprised of Soldiers who served in Pristina, Kosovo, and Sarajevo, Bosnia-Herzegovina, conducted the demobilization process at Fort Benning, Ga. About 40 North Dakota Soldiers remained in Kosovo through the end of July to take part in a Transfer-of-Authority ceremony relinquishing command from the N.D. Army National Guard to the Puerto Rico Army National Guard, which will lead KFOR 13.

In August 2009, MNBG-E began their yearlong deployment in Camp Atterbury, Ind., later moving to Hohenfels, Germany, on Sept. 28-30 for additional training. The group arrived at Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo, on Oct. 24. In Kosovo, the mission of MNBG-E was to maintain a safe and secure environment and provide freedom of movement for the people in Kosovo. The Soldiers had trained for nearly two years to ensure they were prepared for this mission.

During the peacekeeping operations,

keep the connection home.

"Those with Families and children were able to see them every day. You could have Christmas with your family and open presents together. Those moments make all the difference," she said.

The North Dakota contingency had more than 40 family relationships, allowing them a unique deployment experience alongside brothers, sisters, mothers, fathers, husbands and wives. Spc. Derek Nelson was deployed with his father, Sgt. Maj. Mark Nelson, which he said made it easier for his mom knowing they were together. He was excited about the experience and the knowledge he is bringing home with him.

"At 19, most people are sitting in a college class and I was out getting some real world experience beyond my own backyard."

He said he learned about the culture and that the people in Kosovo are very family-oriented and they take time to enjoy the simple things in life.

The KFOR 12 mission was the largest single deployment from the N.D.

National Guard since the Korean War in the early 1950s. ■



Sgt. Eric W. Jensen

Maj. Gen. David A. Sprynczynatyk, N.D. National Guard adjutant general, tells Eden Anton, 4, the Kosovo Force (KFOR) 12 will return in three weeks, to include Eden's dad, Staff Sgt. Eric Anton, at a press conference at the Raymond J. Bohn armory in Bismarck, N.D., July 9.

KFOR 12 by the #S

- 1,200 NATO Soldiers comprised KFOR 12's Multi-National Battle Group-East (MNBG-E) (These numbers reflect KFOR 12's Deterrent Presence posture initiated Feb. 1, 2010)
- 800 Soldiers hailed from the U.S. working with forces from Armenia, Greece, Poland, Romania, Turkey and Ukraine
- Nearly 40 U.S. family relationships in MNBG-E to include mom/son, dad/daughter, married couples, sisters, brothers, uncles and aunts
- 37 total U.S. states and territories represented within MNBG-E
- More than 4,500 patrols executed by the U.S. Liaison Monitoring Teams
- 3,000 hours of flight time logged by MNBG-E Aviation Soldiers with zero accidents or incidents
- 54 distinguished visitor parties escorted by MNBG-E Joint Visitors Bureau
- 30,000 accident free miles traveled while transporting distinguished visitors
- 300 religious services provided by MNBG-E Unit Ministry Teams for Soldiers located at Camp Bondsteel, Camp Nothing Hill and Camp Butmir



Lt. Col. Gary Christenson shakes hands with Dan Biesheuvel, a member of the North Dakota Patriot Guard, who was at the Bismarck Airport holding U.S. flags to welcome home Soldiers returning from Kosovo July 24.

Bill Prokopyk

Right, Staff Sgt. Justin Lampert, of the 818th Engineer Company, receives a plaque of recognition for "8 Soldiers, 8 Missions" from NASCAR driver Dale Earnhardt Jr., June 30. On July 3, Earnhardt's No. 88 National Guard Chevrolet featured a special paint scheme in honor of the 8 Soldiers and 8 Missions in which they served. Lampert was awarded the Army Soldier's Medal for subduing a gunman firing upon patrons in a Las Vegas casino three years ago. He was also awarded a Bronze Star with "V" device for valor while serving in Iraq with the 141st Engineer Battalion in 2004.

Sgt. Michael Baltz



Master Sgt. Steve Gibson, of the 119th Security Forces Squadron, applies caulking material to gaps around window molding at a Habitat for Humanity building July 9, Fargo, N.D. Gibson is part of a group from the N.D. Air National Guard doing volunteer work for Habitat for Humanity during their off-duty hours.

Below, Chaplain Lt. Col. John Flowers, of the 119th Wing, reads a passage from the Bible during an outdoor chapel service at the N.D. Air National Guard, Fargo, N.D., July 11. The non-denominational chapel service is a regular part of the monthly unit training assembly at the 119th Wing.

Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp



Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp



Spc. Tyrel L. Hoppe, of Horace, N.D., begins to rappel down a 35-foot tower at Camp Grafton Training Center, Devils Lake, N.D., during Annual Training 2010 with the 817th Engineer Company (Sapper) of Jamestown, N.D. The tower is used to train Soldiers on different methods of rappelling from the top of a building or wall.



Sgt. Jessica R. Geiger

Above, Master Sgt. Todd D. Ingebretson (brown hardhat), of Carrington, N.D., works with Soldiers from the 835th and 897th Concrete and Asphalt teams from Carrington as they help construct huts at Camp Grafton Training Center, Devils Lake, N.D., during Annual Training on June 19.

Right, Retired Happy Hooligan Roger Dissmore, of North University Barbers, Fargo, N.D., gives Chief Master Sgt. David Harmon, 119th Wing command chief, a short haircut June 29. The haircut was part of an agreement arranged by 119th Wing members Master Sgt. Brian Rook and Senior Master Sgt. Wade Swenson. Harmon challenged Rook and Swenson to raise donations for the Fargo chapter of the Harley owners' group Miracle Ride. The Miracle Ride money goes to the Meritcare Children's Hospital in Fargo. Harmon is sitting in the barber chair and holding a flyer advertising the Miracle Ride, for which he raised \$3,019 with the help of Rook and Swenson.



Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp

GUARDIAN

Snapshots

Sgt. Jessica R. Geiger

Staff Sgt. Brandon Miler, of the 119th Wing, left, and Spc. Allen Hecker, of the 816th Engineer Company (Horizontal), score targets on the firing range. Inset, Tech Sgt. Levi Heller, of the 119th Security Forces Squadron, fires down range with a group of N.D. Guardsmen at Camp Grafton South, N.D., during the two-day Adjutant General's Combat Marksmanship Match.



Shooting Team Wins 30th Straight Competition

Story and Photos by Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp
119th Wing

Some of the best shooters in the N.D. National Guard gathered at the firing range at Camp Grafton South July 17-18 to test their skills in the N.D. National Guard Adjutant General's Combat Marksmanship Match.

The marksmanship match is an annual state competition held "to promote battle-focused marksmanship training and to enhance overall marksmanship proficiency," said Lt. Col. Stephen P. Herda, of Mandan, N.D., who works with the N.D. National Guard's Joint Force Headquarters. "This match offers Soldiers and Airmen in the N.D. National Guard an opportunity to test their marksmanship skills and weapon systems in a shoulder-to-shoulder competition. The Adjutant General's Match is designed to test and improve the capabilities of our National Guard forces in a tactically oriented environment."

The competition involves the use of both pistols and rifles in various shooting scenarios.

A team from the 817th Engineer Company, in Jamestown, N.D., took top honors in the event and produced the best individual shooter, Sgt. 1st Class Gary Varberg.

Varberg and the 817th — which is comprised of many members

from the former 141st Engineer Combat Battalion's Company B — are no strangers to the winners' circle. Varberg has been the best individual shooter 29 out of 30 years, by his own account, and his team has finished first all 30 times that he's competed.

"It's very important for our members to compete in events like this and to take their experience back to their units so they can mentor young Soldiers and Airmen to become better marksmen, which helps them to become a more well-rounded Guardsman," said 1st Lt. Randy A. Jahner Jr., of Bismarck, the N.D. National Guard state marksmanship coordinator.

The N.D. Air National Guard team finished a respectable sixth place out of 12 teams in its first time back to the competition in several years.

"We have had great support from our leadership at the Wing for this contest and we hope to make a better showing next year," said Tech. Sgt. Joshua VonBank, of Fargo, the N.D. Air National Guard's team leader. "The N.D. Air National Guard can have as many as four teams in the competition. It's a good time ... a good experience."

The top scoring team and individuals move on to a regional competition at Camp Guernsey, Wyo., and the top finishers at that contest will advance to the Winston P. Wilson National Championship, which will be in Little Rock, Ark., later this year. ■

Right, N.D. Air National Guard MQ-1 pilot "Shocker," left, positions a simulated aircraft for target acquisition, as sensor operator "Tina" provides target acquisition while training on a predator mission aircrew training system (PMATS) July 21, 2010, Fargo, N.D. The PMATS is a computer aircrew training device that provides realistic simulation of actual Predator ground control station mission scenarios.



July marked another significant milestone in the continuing evolution of MQ-1 Predator operations.

119th Wing Commander Col. Ricky D. Gibney and 119th Operations Group Commander Lt. Col. Brian Sivertson presided over ceremonies where aeronautical rating badges (wings) were formally presented to enlisted sensor operators of the 178th Reconnaissance Squadron and the 119th Operations Support Squadron.

The awarding of aviator wings is the result of two actions — the first by Air Force Secretary Michael B. Donley mandating conversion of sensor operators to become career enlisted aviators, and the second by creation of a new Air Force Specialty Code (1U1X0) commensurate with their new responsibilities.

The conversion of sensor operators to career enlisted aviators is something that "was long overdue" Gibney said. Not only were sensor operators accountable for intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance duties, they also provided critical backup to pilots flying Predators in combat

theaters like Afghanistan and Iraq. Gibney said this is also significant as the Air Force has retired far more aviator wings than have been created.

"The number of people wearing wings doing aviation related work, either manned or unmanned, those duties in the Air Force have been steadily declining," Gibney said. "The one notable exception is in remotely piloted aircraft, such as Predator."

Nearly all of the Hooligan sensor operators came from other career fields prior to the dual conversion from F-16 fighter aircraft to C-21A Lear jets and MQ-1 armed reconnaissance remotely piloted aircraft. Sensor operators were previously trained in the imagery intelligence career field and then attended a formal training unit to gain skills in reconnaissance duties.

Sensor operators use multiple optical systems to provide full-motion video streams to combatant commanders, joint terminal attack controllers, intelligence analysts and other specialties engaged in the Global War on Terrorism. The first sensor operators began formal training five years ago, attending the Air Force Intelligence School at Goodfellow Air Force Base, Texas.

The first MQ-1 combat mission flown from Hector International Airport took place in June 2007. ■

New WINGS Take Flight

Story and Photos by
Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp
119th Wing

119th Wing commander Col. Rick Gibney, left, places a name tag with wings on call sign "Yogurt," a 178th Air Reconnaissance Squadron sensor operator, July 8, at the N.D. Air National Guard (NDANG), Fargo, N.D. While the MQ-1 Predator sensor operators have been assisting in flying the aircraft from the ground control stations since the NDANG began the Predator mission in June of 2007, this is the first time they have worn the winged name patch, which is symbolic of a U.S. Air Force air crew. All sensor operators in the U.S. Air Force and Air National Guard now wear the wings as part of their uniform, indicating that they are aviators. The creation of a new aviator career field is indicative of the growth and importance of the mission.



RETIREMENTS › PROMOTIONS › NEW MEMBERS

April 2010 — July 2010

Promotions • Army

Lieutenant Colonel

Lt. Col. Stuart D. Beckman

Major

Maj. Patrick R. Flanagan

Captain

Capt. Steven T. Bohl

Capt. Moranda L. Flemmer

Capt. Matthew E. Headley

Capt. Sean M. Kiesz

Capt. Timothy G. Mattson

Capt. Brent J. Rekkedal

Capt. Brock A. Sailer

Capt. Waylon D. Tomac

Capt. Anthony T. Williams

First Lieutenant

1st Lt. Kristi L. Blair

1st Lt. Stephanie A. Collins

1st Lt. Kayla G. Gartner

1st Lt. Tobias T. Klipfel

1st Lt. Jamer C. Morrow

1st Lt. Jay G. Sheldon

1st Lt. Jason P. Wood

Chief Warrant Officer

CW3 Michael P. Fetch

CW2 Adam A. Eichele

CW2 Justin A. Gartner

CW2 Anthony T. Peck

Sergeant Major

Sgt. Maj. David R. Lien

Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey A. Narum

Master Sergeant

Master Sgt. Troy T. Kramer

Master Sgt. Melissa K. Shipley

Master Sgt. Barry W. Trottier

Sergeant First Class

SFC Ryan L. Fettig

SFC Bradley A. Haugland

SFC Kelly H. Johnson

SFC Bill M. Kilmer

SFC Duane E. Knoll

SFC Scott P. Miller

SFC Scott R. Obrigewitch

SFC Michael G. Putnam

SFC Danita A. Schaefer

SFC James J. Thiery

SFC Lonnie L. Wangen

SFC Ralph B. Yester

Staff Sergeant

Staff Sgt. Timothy S. Bailey

Staff Sgt. Justina I. Bilby

Staff Sgt. James L. Dammen

Staff Sgt. Derek J. Delorme

Staff Sgt. Kary J. Duffy

Staff Sgt. Jill A. Fischer

Staff Sgt. Bridget L. Harris

Staff Sgt. Ryan M. Hartl

Staff Sgt. Blake A. Hillerson

Staff Sgt. Mark T. Jundt

Staff Sgt. Ciciley R. Littlewolf

Staff Sgt. Chad W. Matthews

Staff Sgt. Matthew J. Mitchel

Staff Sgt. Aaron K. Robinson

Staff Sgt. Paul G. Rohrer

Staff Sgt. Ryan R. Ruff

Staff Sgt. Janel L. Schwab

Staff Sgt. Steven L. Sorenson

Staff Sgt. Michael W. Spang

Staff Sgt. Preston L. Steele

Staff Sgt. Jacob V. Stoelting

Staff Sgt. Nicholas K. Suko

Staff Sgt. Monte A. Weiland

Staff Sgt. Lynda M. Whitty

Sergeant

Sgt. Michael J. Armentrout

Sgt. Adam C. Awender

Sgt. Kyle J. Bauley

Sgt. Ryan D. Broyles

Sgt. Justin J. Butler

Sgt. Evan C. Condry

Sgt. Andrew R. Cordova

Sgt. Garret L. Cree

Sgt. Joyce M. Delorme

Sgt. Michael A. Denault

Sgt. Nicholas R. Dunham

Sgt. Kyle S. Emmel

Sgt. Brandon M. England

Sgt. Ryan J. Felch

Sgt. Daniel J. Fitzner

Sgt. Michael J. Freadhoff

Sgt. Joshua L. Geros

Sgt. Matthew V. Gibbins

Sgt. Logan M. Hauff

Sgt. Laura A. Hocking

Sgt. Kritina R. Hoffman

Sgt. Jessica M. Hruby

Sgt. Robert M. Isakson

Sgt. Justin L. Jenner

Sgt. Nicolas M. Johansen

Sgt. Jeremy F. Knudson

Sgt. Christopher J. Kratochvil

Sgt. John P. Lemieux

Sgt. Lacey T. Markel

Sgt. Kevin R. Mckenzie

Sgt. Kurt A. Morton

Sgt. Kyle R. Nelson

Sgt. Jacob A. Neumann

Sgt. Ivan A. Nychyporuk

Sgt. Aaron J. Pallansch

Sgt. Benjamin D. Peterson

Sgt. Michael P. Phaneuf

Sgt. Michael R. Pommerer

Sgt. Alicia M. Popowski

Sgt. Francisco D. Raatz

Sgt. Keith A. Ramsett

Sgt. Brady L. Riffin

Sgt. Elijah J. Rude

Sgt. Ryan D. Sabin

Sgt. Darryl G. Scarborough

Sgt. Johnathan D. Schaf

Sgt. Cody A. Sivertson

Sgt. Amanda J. Skroch

Sgt. David L. Torok

Sgt. Samantha L. Truckowski

Sgt. Cody A. Veselka

Sgt. Stephan L. Vetter

Sgt. Forrest L. Wells

Sgt. Jeremy J. Worrell

Sgt. Tyler J. Yurecko

Specialist

Spc. Evan R. Awes

Spc. Brandi J. Berg

Spc. Eric M. Blumhagen

Spc. Jessica L. Bosch

Spc. Andrew B. Burckhard

Spc. Dominique P. Campagna

Spc. James D. Crandall

Spc. Jennifer M. Dahlstrom

Spc. Jacob R. Dauenhauer

Spc. Jeffrey S. Diemert

Spc. Travis J. Duffy

Spc. Matthew J. Edwards

Spc. Christopher J. Eppler

Spc. Travis R. Fortier

Spc. Christopher M. Garrison

Spc. Joseph D. Gilbert

Spc. Nathan A. Griffin

Spc. Aaron M. Hallof

Spc. Roger J. Harris

Spc. Ayana C. Hartman

Spc. Darrin C. Hauser

Spc. Michael D. Headland

Spc. Allen R. Hecker

Spc. Allison J. Huber

Spc. Charles J. Johnson

Spc. Nicholas W. Law

Spc. Blake D. Lukach

Spc. Roderick M. Malone

Spc. Dvon U. Morris

Spc. Ashley R. Nelson

Spc. Nathaniel J. Nelson

Spc. Joseph R. Paulus

Spc. Mackenzie D. Petersen

Spc. Jessica L. Raasch

Spc. Jacqueline R. Raatz

Spc. Nikki C. Reiser

Spc. Joseph P. Scanlan

Spc. Skylar M. Schaefer

Spc. Tyler B. Schick

Spc. Derek H. Shimek

Spc. Colton R. Shoults

Spc. Cassandra M. Simonton

Spc. Robert G. Sorensen

Spc. Christopher A. Stenvold

Spc. Justin P. Swain

Spc. Benjamin V. Swenson

Spc. Andrew J. Tanata

Spc. Slade A. Ternes

Spc. Jacklyn S. Ust

Spc. Tyler J. Wall

Spc. Nicole R. Wolfswinkel

Spc. Jordan D. Yanish

Private First Class

Pfc. Richard E. Ames

Pfc. Daniel A. Bettin

Pfc. Mason J. Clayton

Pfc. Tyler W. Comin

Pfc. James E. Day

Pfc. Philip C. Degreef

Pfc. Joylynn H. Deshaw

Pfc. Donovan D. Doble

Pfc. Matthew R. Downing

Pfc. Justin J. Duke

Pfc. Kevin M. Ehlers

Pfc. Cody M. Geffre

Pfc. Chad J. Good

Pfc. Tarrenlee P. Hagerott

Pfc. Corey W. Hansen

Pfc. Cody A. Harter

Pfc. Brandon J. Hauck

Pfc. Joseph J. Jahner

Pfc. Casey L. Johnson

Pfc. James A. Karageorgiou

Pfc. Jason L. Kemmis

Pfc. Josef N. Kerr

Pfc. Alex J. Klave

Pfc. Ross M. Lien

Pfc. Desiree M. Marden

Pfc. Mickely T. Matthews

Pfc. Joseph A. Moran

Pfc. Gage C. Nelson

Pfc. Robert A. Nies

Pfc. Brent J. Noonan

Pfc. Ashley R. Perlichek

Pfc. Robert R. Petermann

Pfc. Tanner J. Rafteseth

Pfc. Jermiah A. Rucker

Pfc. Jacques C. Rutledge

Pfc. Joshua J. Smith

Pfc. Michael C. Sorum

Pfc. Thomas J. Stafford

Pfc. Micheal G. Rieber-Iverson

Pfc. Blake M. Schulte

Pfc. Micah J. Bartram

Pfc. Aaron D. Bedford

Pfc. Clarissa D. Belgarde

Pfc. Paul C. Estwick

Pfc. Heidi E. Fiechtner

Pfc. Shane M. Freeman

Pfc. Annalissa M. Goodsoldier

Pfc. Lane A. Goodsoldier

Pfc. Jessica A. Hanks

Pfc. Timothy J. Johnson

Pfc. Travis A. Laube

Pfc. Roger J. Morrisette

Pfc. Heather F. Baker

Pfc. Harold S. Bowie

Pfc. Jamaal . Bradley

Pfc. Dean A. Burdette

Pfc. Samantha L. Crabbe

Pfc. Steven D. Davenport

RETIREMENTS › PROMOTIONS › NEW MEMBERS

April 2010 — July 2010

Promotions • Army

PV2 Elizabeth A. Davis

PV2 Christopher A. Donis

PV2 Daniel A. Eckman

PV2 Kaleb P. Folden

PV2 Nicholas A. Fossum

PV2 Traylin L. Frazier

PV2 Robert P. Geske

PV2 Joseph S. Greff

PV2 Kelly R. Stevenson

PV2 Cody A. Ingebretson

PV2 James P. Keller

PV2 Jacob D. Libke

PV2 John T. Meager

PV2 Jeremy J. Mlnarik

PV2 Tyler K. Needham

PV2 Dylan J. Nerem

PV2 Christopher C. Ness

PV2 David D. Patterson

PV2 Casey M. Renner

PV2 Samuel P. Richards

PV2 Zachariah T. Siebert

PV2 Kelly R. Stevenson

PV2 Channing R. Swimmer

PV2 Benjamin J. Welk

PV2 Devin J. Wright

PV2 Isaac J. Wynne

Appointments

Maj. Trevor D. Delmonico

Capt. Erik W. Lind

2nd Lt. Kyle C. Allen

2nd Lt. Nathan J. Boerboom

2nd Lt. Jacob W. Danduran

2nd Lt. Jonathan J. Fankhanel

2nd Lt. Nevon W. Heisler

2nd Lt. Justin A. Huber

2nd Lt. Steve English

2nd Lt. Tanner M. Jorud

2nd Lt. Eric R. Lothspeich

2nd Lt. Lorna B. Meidinger

2nd Lt. Lance K. Monson

2nd Lt. Timothy W. Peterson

2nd Lt. Andrew J. Stahl

2nd Lt. Kalli J. Swenson

Retirements

Brig. Gen. Alan W. Palmer

Col. Robert R. Walton Jr.

CSM Daniel D. Peterson

Maj. Jeffrey D. Nelson

Maj. Steven D. Sylvester

Master Sgt. Keith L. Knudson

Master Sgt. Ronald L. Veitz

SFC Anton M. Steckler

SFC William K. Willmann

Staff Sgt. Larry C. Arner

Staff Sgt. Jonnie R. Schmaltz

Sgt. Jerome L. Decoteau Jr.

Sgt. Janine E. Hanson

Sgt. Kyle N. Wheeler

New Members • Army

Capt

Guardsmen Take Part In South Dakota Training Exercise

The N.D. Army National Guard's 191st Military Police Company and the Rear Detachment from the 231st Brigade Support Battalion spent two weeks at the end of June taking part in a massive training exercise in South Dakota. Golden Coyote brought together nearly 2,200 service members for collaborative training on varying tasks.

While at Camp Rapid, S.D., as well as a weapons range in Camp Guernsey, Wy., the MPs practiced convoy operations, locating downed pilots, military operations in urban terrain and search and destroy missions, as well as firing a variety of military weapons. The Rear Detachment served as opposing forces, which helped them learn to "think like the enemy" while ensuring better training for the other Soldiers.

While at Golden Coyote, members of the MPs encountered a real-life scenario and put their military training to use to help the victims of a car accident. Spc. Leah R. Grinsteiner, of Bismarck, Spc. Jason M. Cook, of Bismarck, Spc. Kevin E. Marvig, of Halstad, Minn., and Spc. Matthew A. Derby, of Fargo provided medical aid, notified authorities and directed traffic around the accident.

Engineer Company Constructs Classroom at Garrison Training Site

Soldiers with the 188th Engineer Company (Vertical), from Wahpeton, N.D., spent Annual Training lending their expertise to a monthlong construction project at the N.D. National Guard's training area at Douglas Creek, southwest of Garrison, N.D., on Lake Sakakawea.

The unit completed work on a 30-by-56-foot brick classroom that will allow N.D. National Guard units training at the 700-acre site access to a new, modern indoor facility.

The project lasted throughout June with the building being fully completed July 1.

All aspects of the building's construction were completed by the 188th, including site preparation, masonry, carpentry, roofing, wiring, plumbing and finishing. Because of the variety of jobs required for the project, three separate two-week rotations of about 35 Soldiers had the opportunity to train on

From the Desk of the Adjutant General

RE: Mentoring Program to Return

Soldiers and Airmen of the N.D. National Guard –

I am pleased to announce that the Developing Leaders Joint Mentoring program will start up again this fall. I invite all members of the Army and Air National Guard to become either a mentor or mentee.

The Vision of the N.D. National Guard is "A dynamic, relevant force where everyone is a trained, mentored and empowered leader." The mentoring program allows members of the Army and Air National Guard, whether a mentor or mentee, to transfer organizational culture, values, knowledge and skills from more experienced leaders to the future leaders of this organization. Mentoring is integral to our vision and key to our success.

If you have personal or professional goals, a desire to broaden your leadership ability and are interested in learning from those who are successful in their fields, this program is for you. If you have a technical skill, experience in the organization and you enjoy helping others to meet their goals and expectations for future leadership positions in their career and life, then we need your expertise.

Watch for the September issue of the North Dakota Guardian for more information about the program and what past mentors and mentees had to say, along with the application process.

Sincerely,



Maj. Gen. David Sprynczynatyk

multiple areas of construction while working on the building.

The new building includes a classroom to be used for briefings and preparatory work before units go to the field. It also holds two offices as well as bathroom facilities.

Happy Hooligans Mentor Visitors From Ghana

Two pilots from the Ghanaian Air Force, Lt. Felix Kattah and Flying Officer Peter Attah-Obeng, visited the 119th Wing for a week in June to gain mentoring on the N.D. Air National Guard's recent C-21 mission conversion.

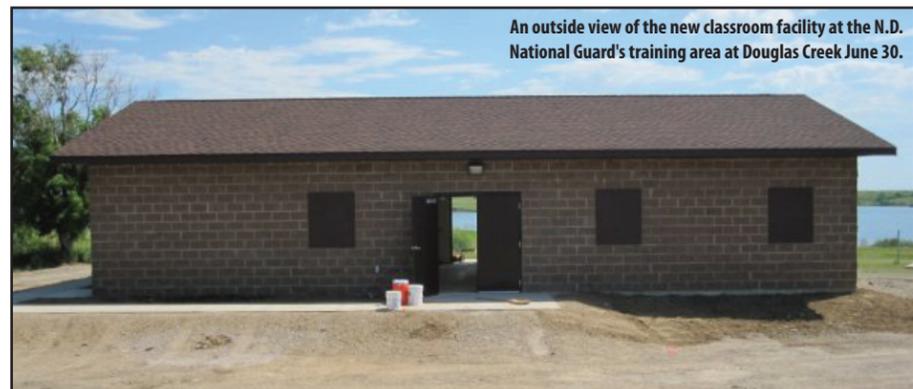
Maj. Gregory McDonald, N.D. state partnership coordinator, said that Ghana's

Air Force received "four Chinese-Pakistani K8 fighters and now they are securing with (aircraft manufacturers) Casas and Embraers to replace their aging Fokker fleet."

"They are looking at developing a pilot transition program, but have little experience in how to accomplish this," he said.

The Happy Hooligans have experience in mission conversion, with many notable accomplishments along the way including accepting the 2009 Joint Operational Support Airlift Center Squadron of the Year Award in March.

The Ghanaians were able to gain insight into the 119th's conversion plan, flight operations, records management and safety program during their visit. ■



Staff Sgt. Benjilee Boll



Go to Class, Earn Cash

By N.D. Army National Guard Recruiting and Retention Office

By participating in the Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) program, future leaders in the N.D. Army National Guard can become officers while pursuing their secondary education.

Two ROTC programs are available in North Dakota — a traditional four-year and an accelerated two/three-year program. Participating schools include the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks along with the tri-college ROTC program in Fargo, which is comprised of North Dakota State University, Minnesota State University Moorhead and Concordia College. Plans are also being made to bring an ROTC program to Bismarck State College.



Military Science courses are taught at all of these universities, however, students do not have to contract into the ROTC program to take them. They are standard college courses that provide skills in leadership, land navigation, tactics, health, physical fitness and life skills.

The four-year ROTC program is for students with no prior military experience. The 2/3-year Simultaneous Membership Program (SMP) is a N.D. Army National Guard program which allows Soldiers who have prior service to skip the first two years of ROTC and commission in the organization. The reason for the accelerated program is to accommodate students who have already completed Basic Training and Advanced Individual Training since they have been trained in the skills that would be taught in the first two years of ROTC.

Also, after just one semester of being involved in the ROTC program, students can complete their education without interruption, worry-free since all N.D. Army National Guard ROTC participants are non-deployable until they graduate from college. They must also complete their Officer Basic Course before being mobilized.

Make Money Going to College is the N.D. Army National Guard's slogan, because while students are enrolled in the SMP program, they will be paid as an E-5, which is approximately \$283.60 a month in drill pay. In addition, students will receive their GI Bill, worth \$329 a month, with the GI Bill kicker, worth \$350 a month.

If that's not enough, students also receive a stipend which ranges from \$350 a month as a sophomore to \$500 a month as a senior. These payments add up to a total of \$1283.60 to \$1417 dollars a month. That's not too bad for a college kid.

To learn more about the ROTC program, SMP and program eligibility requirements, contact 1st Lt. Ryan Schulz at 701-202-0347 or Capt. Shawn Flemmer at 701-371-0485. ■

Chaplain's Corner

By Chaplain (Maj.) David Johnson
Joint Force Headquarters

Retreat Forward!?!?

What does this mean, anyway? I was reading a devotional the other day entitled "Retreating Forward."

The title intrigued me because, well, that just doesn't make sense! To retreat is to run away from whatever it is that is causing you a problem or concern, right? In one sense, yes, but to retreat forward is a very different thing.

To retreat forward is to take the time to get away, not to run away from something. Simply put, it is to take a time of retreat to prepare for what is coming next. Retreats have a whole lot of different names. Whatever you call them, to retreat forward allows you time to rest, think and reflect, seek support, pray, vision and plan.



Chaplain (Maj.) David Johnson

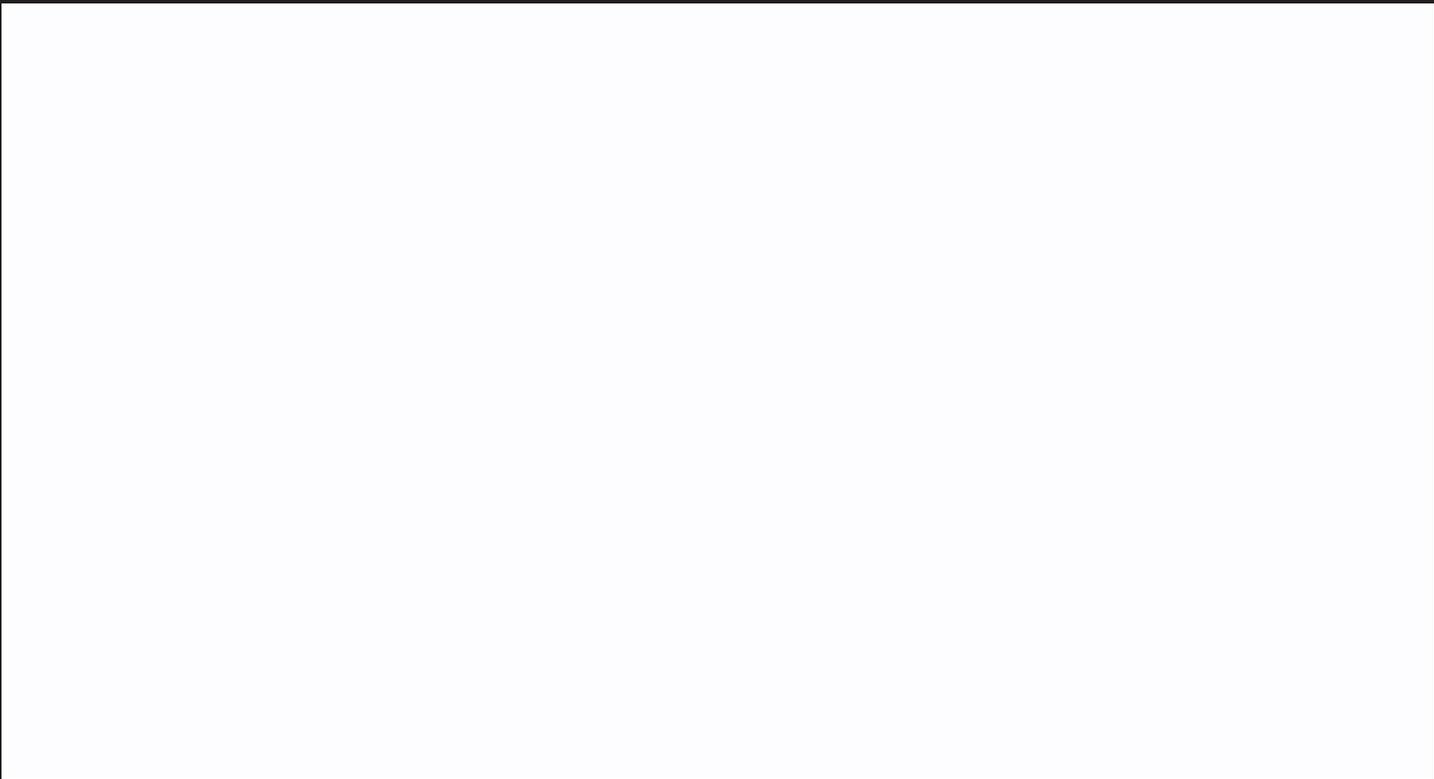
To run from or retreat from something doesn't address the issue or concern.

With this in mind, how do you retreat forward? When was the last time you retreated forward? I don't know about you, but I need to ask myself this question often. To be honest, I don't always like the answer I give myself. I know that it is important, however, and I am always looking for ways and times to retreat forward.

To retreat forward is kind of like a sabbatical. A sabbatical is an intentional break granted to people at times in life to help them to rest, think and reflect, seek support, pray, vision and plan. The intent is to help the individual find rejuvenation in all areas of their life – physically, spiritually, emotionally and so on. The word sabbatical comes from the root word Sabbath, which means to rest.

Since most people don't receive long sabbaticals, how do you find time – daily, weekly, monthly – to take mini sabbaticals? How do you retreat forward? Again, it's hard to do, but it is *vital for life!*

Blessings, Chaplain Johnson



Senior Master Sgt. David H. Lipp

The N.D. National Guard's Military Funeral Honors team salutes as the remains of U.S. Army Spc. Keenan Cooper are removed from the flight line in a hearse upon arrival at the 119th Wing, N.D. Air National Guard July 14. Cooper was killed in action while serving his country in Afghanistan on July 5. Motorcycle riders of the North Dakota Patriot Guard and North Dakota Legion Riders were led by the North Dakota Highway Patrol and other local law enforcement as they escorted Cooper's remains from Fargo to his hometown of Wahpeton, N.D., where his funeral was held July 16.