



Just back from Iraq, and a bus ride from the airport, a planeload of soldiers from the 4th Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, filed into a gym at Fort Riley for a "redeployment" ceremony. — Telegram photo by Steve Haynes

Joyous welcome home for Fort Riley troops

By STEVE HAYNES
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 It's quiet in the gym at Fort Riley as the 350 soldiers march, single file, to form ranks in front of their loved ones.
 A recording plays "Kryptonite" by 3 Doors Down:
If I go crazy then will you still Call me Superman
If I'm alive and well, will you be
There holding my hand
 Stern-faced, the men and women file across the hard oak floor, filling up the basketball floor under a huge American flag. As each one reaches his or her place, they turn at attention to face the general there to welcome them.
 It wouldn't take long.
 First, the national anthem.
 Brig. Gen. Keith Walker, deputy commander of the 1st Infantry Division, knows the men and

women, just off a plane from more than a year in Iraq, haven't come to hear him. Those stands are packed with families, relatives, friends, politicians and the press, just waiting.
 Kids stand on tiptoes, holding signs made by mom: "He's not just my Dad. He's my hero." "Welcome home, Jim."
 Wives lean forward, some wearing baby packs, carrying diaper bags, others sporting low-cut, clingy tops.
 Gen. Walker talks about how America idolizes sport stars, calling them "heroes."
 "They are not heroes," he says. "They are entertainers. You are heroes."
 Turning to the families, he tells them, "You are the backbone of the Army."
 Then he turns again to the troops:

"I seem to be the last thing standing between you and your families."
 "Thank you. Well done. Welcome home."
 The sergeant major shouts, "Dismissed."
 And the place goes nuts.
 Families stream down out of the bleachers, swarming into the ranks on the floor. Wives and girlfriends fly into open arms. Tears flow.
 For many, it is more than a reunion. Fathers meet babies for the first time. Wives unload 15 months of loneliness.
 The troops, from the 4th Brigade of the 1st Infantry, have a lot of catching up to do. Many of the families have not yet settled into this Kansas post, where construction runs constant on new barracks, housing and day care facilities, among other buildings.
 The 4th, Gen. Walker explained

earlier at a briefing for Kansas Press Association editors, "stood up" for the first time just two years ago when the division expanded, then shipped out to Iraq. Many families had no time to move before the deployment. Now the Army hopes they'll come here to make a new life.
 He says he wants this old cavalry post to be the best place in the Army to do that.
 On the floor, Lt. Michael Costillo stands, hugging his family for a long time. His wife, Lt. Tracy Costillo, brought dark-haired little Ella Marie to meet her daddy. Nothing is said for the longest time.
 Her mother and grandmother watch as a television crew films the whole thing, interviewing the San Antonio couple.
 And then they hug again, mom, dad, baby.



Lt. Michael Costillo hugged his wife, Lt. Tracy Costillo, and their daughter, Ella Marie. Wives, parents, kids, friends, reporters and politicians waited in the stands, waving flags, as the men marched in. — Telegram photo by Steve Haynes

Scary night in Jennings area

By KIMBERLY DAVIS
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 Heavy winds, hail as big as tennis balls and tornado warnings sent people in the Jennings area and northern Sheridan County to the basement last Thursday evening.
 Tornado warnings were issued for both Decatur and Sheridan counties, said Dave Floyd, a meteorologist with the National Weather Service in Goodland.
 No tornadoes were confirmed in Decatur County, he said, but Emergency Management Director

Patti Skubal said there were trees and power poles down in Cedar Bluffs, north of Oberlin. She also said an old grain bin had been knocked over by the wind.
 There were reports of 65 mph winds north of Oberlin, said Mr. Floyd, and lots of reports of hail.
 He said he wasn't sure how strong the winds got, but there could have been gusts over 80 mph for the storm to blow over a grain bin.
 About 10 miles south of Jennings at the home of Bill and Marilyn Noone, hail the size of

tennis balls came down for 10 to 15 minutes.
 Mrs. Noone said it was around 8:30 p.m. when the family heard on the weather alert radio that there was a tornado near Selden. She said they headed to the basement, and then the hail started.
 At first, she said, it sounded like someone was hitting a tennis or racquet ball against the house time after time.
 There wasn't a lot of wind, said Mrs. Noone, or there could have been more damage. There were

holes in the siding on the north side of the house, but they didn't lose any windows. Vehicles that were left outside have dents, said Mrs. Noone, and there is a perfect circle in her windshield.
 Hail went through the family's picnic table, too, she said. Her son dug out a baseball and a golf ball, and the ball of hail fit between the two sizes.
 Jacque Boultinghouse, mayor of Selden and emergency management coordinator for Sheridan County, said she did see a tornado trying to form west of town.



After the storm last Thursday, Stephani Noone held two tennis-ball sized hail stones at her home south of Jennings. — Photo by Marilyn Noone

Senior Center Menu

May 5, Cook's Choice Entree, Italian Blend Veggies, Rosy Pears, Bread, Pudding. May 6, Cheeseburger Upside Down Pizza, Tossed Salad, Corn, Bread, Mixed Fruit w/Bananas. May 7, Baked Chicken, Potato Salad, Carrots, Roll Blushing Applesauce. May 8, Pasta Beef & Tom Cass, Green Beans, Spinach Salad, Bread, Strawberry Shortcake w/Topping. May 9, Ham, AuGratin Potatoes, Peas, Bread, Peaches.
 May 12, Salisbury Steak, Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy, Cook's Choice Veggies, Bread, Apricots. May 13, Chicken & Rice Casserole, Broccoli, Jello w/Fruit, Roll, Cherry Cobbler. May 14, Sloppy Joes, Tater Tots, Cucumbers & Onions, Bun, Seasonal Melon. May 15, Roast Turkey, Candied Sweet Potatoes, Pineapple, Roll, Birthday Cake. May 16, Taco Salad, Mandarin Oranges, Chips, Brownie.
 May 19, Baked Spaghetti, Mixed Vegetables, Fruit Mix, Garlic Bread, Choice Complement. May 20, Pork Roast, Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy, Green Beans, Roll, Strawberries/Bananas. May 21, BBQ Meat Balls, Carrots, Broccoli Salad, Bread, Cinnamon Apple Slices. May 22, Paprika Chicken, Mashed/Gravy, Peas, Bread, Peaches. May 23, Baked Fish, Rice Pilaf, Winter Mix Veggies,

Bread, Apricots.
 May 26, Closed, Memorial Day. May 27, Hamburger, Hash Brown Casserole, Corn, Bun, Blushing Pears. May 28, Chicken Fajita Salad, 5 Cup Salad, Crackers, Cherry Crisp. May 29, Meat Logan, AuGratin Potatoes, Peas, Bread, Cantaloupe. May 30, Turkey & Noodles, Cheesy Cauliflower, Applesauce Gelatin, Roll, Cookie.

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Summer Enrollment will be held on May 12 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. in the Norton Junior High School Cafeteria. Contact Angela Melvin at 785-877-3518 for additional information.

NO.	COURSE	CR.	INSTRUCTOR	PLACE	TIME/DAY	START DATE
EN176	English Comp I	3	J. Votapka	NJHS	3:00-6:00p/T&R	5/27
EN177	English Comp II	3	J. Votapka	NJHS	6:00-9:00p/T&R	5/27
PH103	Earth Science	5	G. Rossi	NJHS	6:00-9:00p/Wed.	6/4
PH103L	Earth Science Lab (Lab Fee \$40)	0	G. Rossi	NJHS	6:00-9:00p/Wed.	6/4
SP176	Public Speaking	3	R. Walz	NJHS	6:00-9:00p/R	5/29
HI177	American History 1865 to Present (\$40 Telecourse Fee)	3	R. Walz	NJHS	6:00-9:00p/R	5/29
MA178	College Algebra	3	L. Bailey	NCHS	7:00-8:30pT/Th	5/27
MA205	Elements of Statistics (Pre-Algebra)	3	L. Bailey	NCHS	8:30-10:00pT/Th	5/27
CH176	Fundamentals of Chemistry	5	J. Green	NCHS	1:00-5:00pM/W/F	6/2
CH176L	Fundamentals of Chemistry (Lab Fee \$25)	0	J. Green	NCHS	1:0-5:00pM/W/F	
PS276	Developmental Psychology (iStep)	3	K. Carter	Hospital	5:30-10:30p	5/16
EN110	Medical Terminology (\$5ITV/iStep)	1	TBA	NCHS	12:30-2:30p	6/2
HE101	Basic Nutrition (\$15 ITV Fee)	3	M. Kane		8:30-11:30a	6/2
PS176	General Psychology (\$15 ITV Fee)	3	S. Callihan	Hospital	8:00a-5:30p M-F	5/19