

TEE

Third quarter 2003

# LAGNIAPPE

A "GATOR BATTALION" Magazine



## On The Cover

*Steven Louviere and his father Melvin embrace after his swearing in ceremony at the New Orleans MEPS.*



## From The editor

In this issue we celebrate family and unit tradition. Family tradition was followed as Ellen Brown, Steven Louviere and Jennifer Glover enlisted in the Army. PVT Brown is the brother of Jennings Recruiting Station Commander SFC Robert Blanchard. He recruited her and watched as she took her oath of enlistment from LTC Samuel Clear. PVT Louviere continues his family's heritage of service by following his father, grandfather and great grandfather into the Army. PVT Louviere was assisted in his enlistment by SSG Spears of Metairie and took his oath from CPT Fred Phillip in an emotional ceremony attended by his father. PVT Glover's childhood dream of being a soldier like dad came true when she enlisted in the Army Reserve. Her father assisted with the enlistment.

We celebrated our traditional organizational day at Fort Polk. After a day filled with hard fought, but good-natured competition, New Orleans Company won the battalion trophy. But organizational days are more than sporting events; it was a day to unwind and enjoy the comradery of follow soldiers. In my opinion, nothing builds morale better than a good laugh and a cold beer between soldiers (and us civilians).

We want to hear from you. If you have any story ideas please contact us. This is your newsletter and we encourage you to contribute.

**Tee Lagniappe** (Cajun French for "a little something extra") is an authorized publication under the provisions of AR 360-01 for the U.S. Army Recruiting Battalion, New Orleans. The contents are not necessarily official views and/or endorsed by the United States Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or the New Orleans Army Recruiting Battalion. It is published quarterly by the Advertising and Public Affairs Office, New Orleans Recruiting Battalion, 4400 Dauphine Street, Bldg. 602-2C, New Orleans, Louisiana 70146-1699. Telephone (504) 678-8531. FAX (504) 678-6537. Stories and/or photographs related to recruiting activities of interest to the Army and the Army Reserve, including letters to the editor, are welcome.

**Battalion Commander**  
LTC Samuel Clear

**Chief, Advertising & Public Affairs**  
Renee Bozeman

**Editors**  
Roger Harmon  
SFC Brent Gautreau



**S**oldiers, civilians, family members and friends of the New Orleans Recruiting Battalion, how are you doing out there in "Gator" land? I want to thank each and every soldier, civilian and their family members who supported them in accomplishing the great job in June. The battalion made its mission, but could not have made it without the efforts put forth by everyone mentioned above. We continue to make great strides and get better each day! For the month of June, the battalion accomplished a feat that was last

accomplished back in November 2001. The great soldiers along with the support of the civilian staff recruited and enlisted over 190 soldiers! Reward for a lot of hard work by a TEAM on the rise. We have planted our battalion colors on top of "Mission Box Hill" and are digging in for the long haul.

I'm proud of each and every one of you! See you on the high ground.....  
**ONE TEAM .....ONE FIGHT!**

Gator Six Out.



*Photo By Roger Harmon*  
*LTC Samuel Clear congratulates SFC Donald Bryant for boxing Metairie RS while also working at operations.*



*Steven Louviere receives his grandfathers burial flag from his father, following his swearing-in ceremony.*

*Photo by CPT Fred Philipp*

## **Warriors - Past, Present and Future**

By CPT Fred Philipp

A family heritage continues with Steven Louviere swearing the oath of enlistment to his country. The Louviere's family involvement in conflicts and war include Vietnam, World War II, the Civil War, the Mexican War, the War of 1812 (Battle of New Orleans) and the American Revolution. Steven's father presented him with the burial flag that was issued to Steven's grandfather, after the ceremony held at the New Orleans MEPs in June.

Steven's grandfather was a WWII hero. During the liberation of

the Philippine Islands, while under heavy enemy fire, SSG Melvin Louviere dragged several of his wounded comrades to safety. He was awarded the Bronze Star for his courageous actions. He served with the 35<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, 25<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division.

Steven's dad, Petty Officer Melvin Louviere Jr., served in the Navy during the Vietnam War. His tour of duty was split between two destroyers, the USS Richard S. Edwards and the USS Mullaney.

PVT Louviere, a member of the Army's delayed entry program, will attend basic training at Ft. Knox, Ky, July 30. He will attend AIT at The Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Md., to receive training for Generator Repairman (52D).

### Like father, like daughter

By Roger Harmon

When she was a little girl, she wanted to grow up to be just like her daddy. In June she saw that wish come true as she lifted her hand and swore to defend her country as a soldier in the United States Army.

Jennifer Glover took the Oath of Enlistment at the New Orleans MEPs in June. She is the daughter of SSG Neil Glover, who works at Gonzales Recruiting Station. Jennifer enlisted as a 63G, Fuel and Electric Equipment Repair Specialist.

"I selected the bonus of \$3000 dollars, Student Loan Repayment Program and the Kicker for the GI Bill." She is assigned to the 344<sup>th</sup> Maintenance Com-

pany in Baton Rouge. She will attend basic training at Ft. Leonard Wood Mo., and advanced individual training at the Aberdeen Proving Grounds, Md.

Glover is a senior at East Ascension High School in Gonzales, La, where she is in Advance Placement, a member of The National Honor Society and the Track team. "My friends are surprised I enlisted, but now they are thinking about the Reserve," said Glover. SSG Glover nodded in agreement, and said he is counting up the future referrals.

Glover said money for college is her main reason for enlisting. She is also applying for The United States Military Academy at West Point, where she plans to major in veterinary medicine. "It would be so cool for dad to salute me" laughed Glover. "I would only do it once," said a grinning father.



Photo by Renee Bozeman

*SSG Neil Glover of the Gonzales Recruiting Station shares a light-hearted moment with his daughter, Jennifer, following her swearing in ceremony.*

*SFC Robert Blanchard from Jennings Recruiting Station, prepares his sister, Ellen Brown for the guidance counselor.*



*Photo by Roger Harmon*

## **Sister continues an Army tradition**

By Roger Harmon

“Welcome to the Army, Sis,” SFC Robert Blanchard said to PVT Ellen Brown after the New Orleans Battalion Commander gave her the Oath of Enlistment. “This is my most rewarding enlistment,” said Blanchard. “Not only am I helping my sister, but the Army also.”

Brown enlisted as a Food Service Operator, for a combined bonus of \$20,000. She will attend basic training at Fort Jackson, SC, and Advanced Individual Training at Fort Lee, Va.

The cash bonus was PVT Brown’s main reason for enlisting. She has completed one year of college and

hopes to complete her degree while on active duty. “I’m so glad I enlisted, I felt like I was just spinning my wheels,” she said, “This was a hard decision to make, but I’m glad I did.” She said she has a fear of basic training, but knows her recruiter will help her prepare for it. Blanchard said he hopes the Army experience will allow his sister to establish herself and that she will pursue it as a career. Blanchard approached his sister like any of his applicants, “We discussed her current life and goals, then I presented to her how the Army can make it happen.”

Brown seemed to relax as LTC Samuel Clear explained the Oath of Enlistment to her. After she recited the Oath, Clear helped Brown complete her contract, ensuring the family tradition lives on. “This is the fun part of my job,” Clear said, and presented Brown a battalion coin.

### FREE FALL!

By SFC Gautreau

“STANDUP, HOOKUP, CHECK STATIC LINE ...” Most soldiers are familiar with jump commands recited on Airborne operations, some of which have been popularized in cadence calls sung on PT runs throughout the Army. Jumpmasters use the commands to direct paratroopers through a sequence of safety steps and out of the aircraft on a static line jump. When jumping with the Army’s parachute team Golden Knight’s, the similarities end after “Standup,” as Sgt. Thomas Giles of Shreveport South Recruiting Station learned in April at the annual Barksdale Air Show in Bossier City, La.

“I had never jumped out of an airplane before, nor did I ever think I would,” said Giles. He said he wanted to take advantage of an opportunity that doesn’t come around every day. The Golden Knights told Giles before boarding the plane that he most likely would not jump that day because of high winds, but that he would at least get to suit up and go for a plane ride. Once the aircraft reached 8,000 feet, Golden Knight SSG Bryan Schnell instructed Giles to stand up so he could be hooked into the Tandem harness. “While he was hooking me up I asked, ‘Are we jumping?’ and he replied with, ‘Yes.’” Once the plane reached an altitude of 12,500 feet, the duo eased toward the doorway. “Bryan told me there are three rules to this jump: ‘one, arch; two, relax; and, three, have fun,’” Giles said. Cameraman SFC Dan Leavitt jumped out

first, then the Tandem team began rocking in the doorway. “At that very moment I knew there was no turning back. On the third rock we were out the door and WOW, was that the rush of my life! I have never done anything that exciting in my life. While free falling I remembered to arch, relax, and boy did I have fun!”

The Shreveport Company Leadership Team selected Giles to jump tandem with the Golden Knight’s in support of Shreveport Companies prospecting efforts at the air show. Shreveport South’s Station Commander, SFC Michael Gibson, said they held a Delayed Entry Program function in conjunction with the event that netted one contract, Patrice Campbell, who was a DEP guest.

The Award winning Golden Knights, based at Ft. Bragg, North Carolina, will participate in approximately 60 events nationally this year to include an appearance in the New Orleans Company area for the Belle Chasse Air Show on Nov. 1 and 2. For more information on the Golden Knights, go to their web site at [www.usarec.army.mil/hq/goldenknights/2002webpage.htm](http://www.usarec.army.mil/hq/goldenknights/2002webpage.htm)



*Photo courtesy of Golden Knights*

### Houma recruiters put on show

By SSG Scottie Leblanc

Recruiters falling from the rafters provided an unexpected thrill at a packed Indoor Football League game in Houma. The pre-game entertainment gave the U.S. Army a dramatic presence at the game to the enthusiastic response from an audience of 2,500 people.

Houma Recruiting Station recruiters were billed as "Houma's own Army paratroopers" as they presented the game ball, game coin and posted the nation's Colors. To patriotic music playing in the background, the announcer read a quick bio about SSG Clay Usie, SGT Bryon Guidry and SSG Scottie Leblanc, followed by the history of the Army. Then the house lights were cut, leaving only the dimmer lights shining with heart-pumping techno music filling the air and spotlights searching the field. The words from the song "The Roof" rang out. The loudspeaker announced, "Alpha Team bound right," followed by "Alpha Team bound left." The beat of the music quickened and the words to

"The Roof Is On Fire" blast from the speakers. Ropes dropped from the ceiling and the soldiers quickly rappelled down to the field.

The crowd screamed and applauded the entrance. Touching down, they ran out of the ropes and came together at midfield, saluting each side of the stands.

Leblanc pulled the game ball from his Rucksack and placed it at midfield. Usie and Guidry began unfurling the flag Usie had flown in Afghanistan just six months before. After the National Anthem, Guidry presented the battalion coin to the referee for the coin toss.

Members of the Bayou Bucks team said the introduction had their blood pumping and prepared them for the game. At the conclusion of their 48-6 victory over the Drillers, Leblanc presented the game coin to quarterback Herb Tyler, the game MVP. Houma RS DEP members attended, thanks to The Bayou Bucks donating tickets. They said they were proud to be apart of "The Team." The Bayou Bucks sponsored airtime for the Army through the Guaranteed Broadcasting for publicity. With Houma Television (HTV) and The Houma Courier recognizing the effort, a large market segment was reached.



Photo courtesy of GoArmy.com

### Get to know your Gator

*Editors note:*

*"Get to know your Gator" introduces battalion newcomers.*

The battalion S1 NCOIC duties are in the capable hands of Staff Sergeant Kimberly Edwards. She was born and raised in Fordyce, Ar., and enlisted into the Army December 1992. She lives in New Orleans with her 11-year-old daughter Ashton.

Edwards comes to us a seasoned personnel administrative specialist. Her various assignments include duty with the 1st Cavalry Division, where she was the first female soldier assigned to an Armor Brigade at Fort Hood. She also has had assignments in Germany, Korea and Fort Stewart. In her off-duty time Edwards is working towards her bachelor's in human resource management with Troy State. She also enjoys running.



*Fordyce Ar. Native SSG Kimberly Edwards takes charge of the New Orleans Battalion PAC.*

### Staff notes

**IMO**– John Bagby announces that the battalion will field Windows XP. “We must complete the install by 30 September,” said Bagby. The install disk is in the final stages of completion and IMO will start scheduling the install with the companies after that. Soldiers and civilians are also required to possess the new common access card, CAC, at that time.

**A&PA**– When planning a funded DEP function, consider throwing a cook out. “Cooking out allows the stations to buy more quality food to serve their DEP’s,” said Sharon Blackburn. “It will also provide a casual environment to maintain interest and introduce yourself to the guests in attendance,” she added. Submit DEP function request 10 days prior to the event and the after action review three days after the event.

**TAIR**– 4th Quarter TAIR events are in the final scheduling phase. Roger Harmon is working with Fort Hood to fill the vacancies due to the deployment of Fort Polk. Use TAIR’s to your advantage: They do not have to go to every station in the company, or every recruiter in a station. Deploy them in the market areas you want to increase production in. Please meet the soldier and go over his presentation before hitting the schools. Reject soldiers who do not meet your standard.

## **Lafayette and Shreveport battle for top spots**

By Roger (Sarge) Harmon

The fight for third-quarter honors provided more sparks than a "Willie P" round landing on an ammo dump. Lafayette and Shreveport companies floored an amazing 132 applicants in June, fighting to overcome DEP/DTP attrition.

Using an 80 percent conversion rate, Shreveport Company earned the honor of Top Company and Top On-Production Station. Lafayette Company swept the Top Limited Production Station, Top RA and USAR Recruiters, along with two soldiers earning the Commanders Cup Award.

Shreveport Company is inviting all comers to take a shot at the champs. They plan on closing out fourth quarter strong and remain the Top Company. Winning the trophy once was nice; winning it twice in a row makes it a habit. One the company plans not to break.

**TOP COMPANY**  
Shreveport

**TOP LP STATION**  
Lafayette

**TOP OP STATION**  
Shreveport North

**TOP RA RECRUITER**  
SSG Palermo, New Iberia

**TOP USAR RECRUITER**  
SGT Rutland, Lake Charles

**COMMANDERS CUP**  
SGT Hawley Lafayette  
SGT Dumas Lafayette

**QUARTER BOX**  
Shreveport North  
Lafayette  
Jennings

Annaya Taplette enjoys herself during a recent luncheon at which time her mom SPC Ayanna Taplette received an award and gifts prior to her departure from the battalion.



*Photo by Roger Harmon*

## The Army turns 228

*Courtesy Army.com*

Since its birth on 14 June 1775, over a year before the Declaration of Independence, the United States Army has played a vital role in the growth and development of the American nation. It won the new Republic's independence in an arduous eight-year struggle against Great Britain, at times providing the lone symbol of nationhood around which patriots could rally. During the Civil War it preserved the Union through four years of bitter conflict that turned brother against brother. It has repeatedly defended the United States against external threats, from the "second war of independence" with Great Britain in 1812 through the crusades that finally rid the world of the specters of Nazi totalitarianism, Japanese imperialism, and world communism. The defense of the nation has always been the Army's primary mission but, not its only one. From the beginning the Army has also been involved with internal improvements, natural disaster relief, economic assistance, and a host of other contingencies. Although these missions may not have always been those it would have chosen for itself, our Army has drawn great satisfaction from knowing that when the nation was in need, it answered the call.

"There must be, within our Army, a sense of purpose. There must be a willingness to march a little farther, to carry a heavier load, to step out into the dark and the unknown for the safety and well-being of others."

—General Creighton  
Abrams



# Gator Day 2003



## Laissez Le Bon Temps Rouler "Let The Good Times Roll"

### **Grill Sergeants feed masses at Gator Day**

BY Roger Harmon  
Photos by Renee Bozeman

With the Grill Sergeants already hard at work, "Gator Six" officially announced the opening of Gator Day. Organizational days are rich with tradition. Commanders use this day to "Stand Down" and give soldiers time away from their normal duties. It's a time for families to meet one another and for soldiers to meet in competition.

The cooks meanwhile fought a culinary war to the very end. They sent 450 pounds of fresh crawfish to their tasty demise along with 100 pounds of chicken and 600 hamburgers and hot dogs. Our thanks go out to, Juan "Gangsta" Scott, Odell "Gator" Wallace and Larry "Abdul" Stubbs.

At the close of the day one company stood supreme. The Nawlins Hurricane is that company. Fighting the heat and the rest of the battalion, the 'Canes withstood the challenges put in front of them. Using wins in softball and the tug of war they swept by Shreveport to claim the top spot.



*(Above) SFC Gregory Willingham leads the break for the battalion staff.*



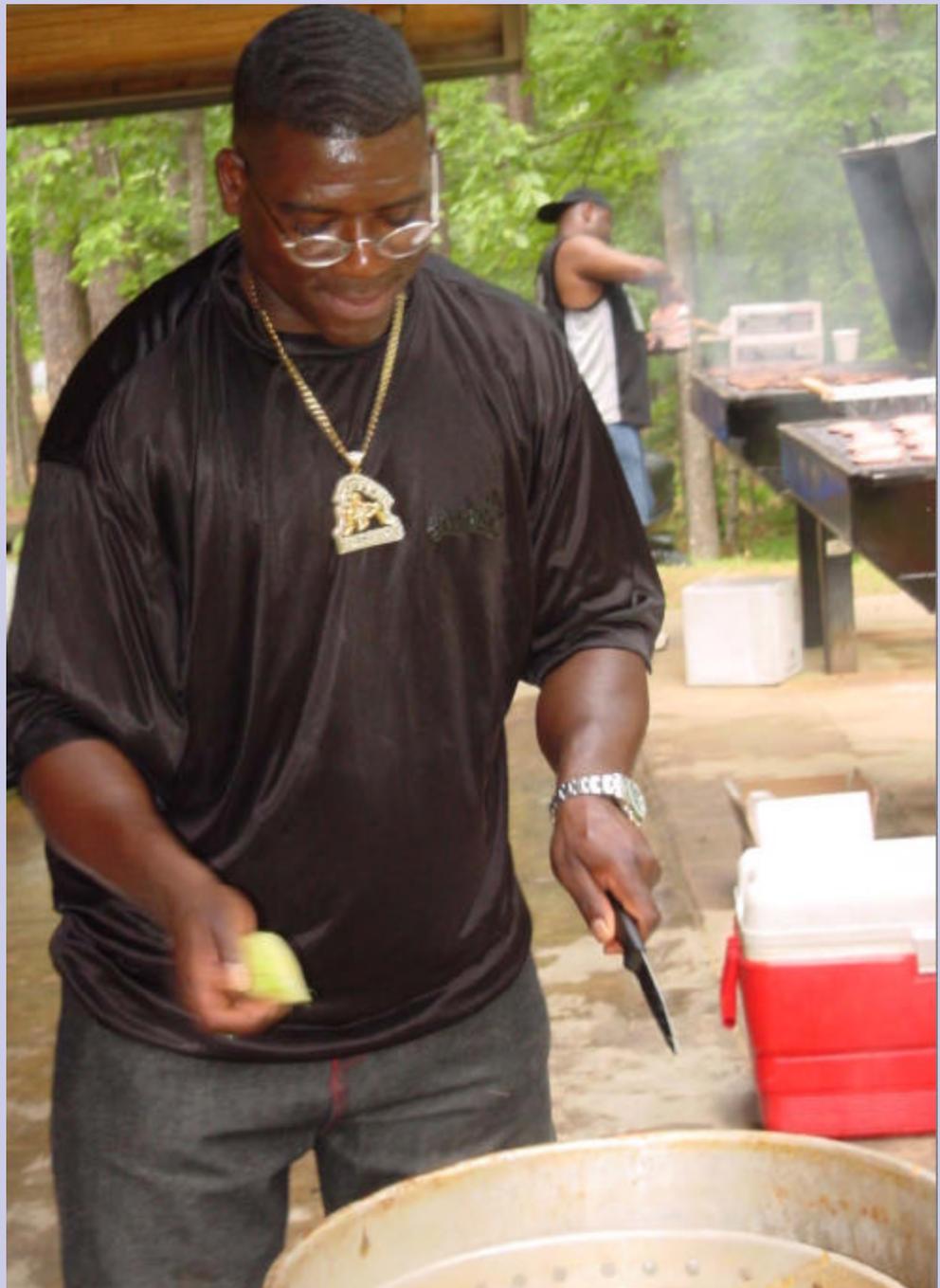
*(Left) SSG Robert Pabel enjoys a hot off-the-grill drumstick.*



*Top Left) Louisiana Crawfish bathe  
in a spicy Cajun Jacuzzi.*



*(Top Right) CPT Fred Philipp,  
battalion operations officer, dem-  
onstrates pinching tails and sucking  
heads.*



*Right) SFC Juan Scott adds to his  
Creole concoction as SFC Odell  
Wallace tends to the grill.*



*(Above) CPT Benjamin Garner of the Shreveport Company Leadership Team and his family enjoy a moment of peace and quiet.*



*(Left) CPT Warren Seymour and SFC William Spence receive the Commanders trophy for overall competition.*

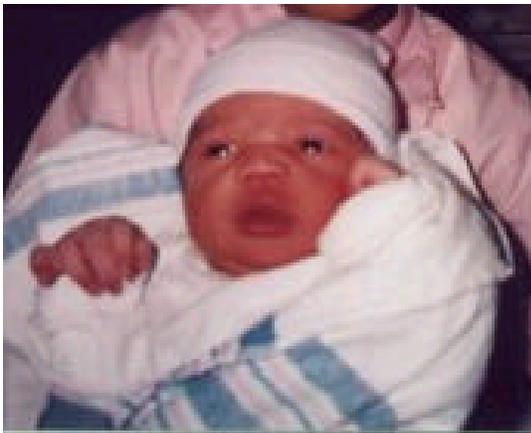
## “BABY GATORS”



*Colin Matthew Tyner born 28 April to SSG Richard and Kelly Tyner.*



*Taylor Brooke Kynard born 31 May to MAJ Calyes and Melanie Kynard.*



*Jhamera Shanell Scott born 22 May to SSG Rosella and Mearella Scott.*



*Violet Ann Nickels born 3 March to SGT Joseph and Breann Nickels.*



# HAIL & FAREWELL



ARRIVALS	ARRIVED FROM	ASSIGN TO
SGT CARTER AGR	ARKANSAS	BOSSIER CITY
SSG EDWARDS-RA	KOREA	BN HQS
SFC HARRISON-RA	2ND BDE	METAIRIE
SSG DAFFERN-RA	OK RECRUITING BN	SHREVEPORT NORTH
SFC WASHINGTON-RA		MONROE
SFC PRICE-RA	2ND BDE	RUSTON
SSG THOMPSON-RA	FORT POLK	VICKSBURG
MSG BURGESS	ST LOUIS BN	NO GUIDANCE COUN- SELOR
MAJ JONES	KUWAIT	BN XO

DEPARTURE	DEPART FROM	DEPART TO
SPC TAPLETTE	BN HQS	ETS
SSG PIPPINS	BN HQS	2ND BDE
1SG ROBINSON	NEW ORLEANS	JACKSONVILLE BN
SSG ROBERTS	NO	
MSG ALLEN	OPS	KOREA
MSG COLON	RT	FORT KNOX
SFC TODD	OPS	RETIREMENT
SSG LOWE	NO	KOREA
SFC WASHINGTON	BR	KOREA
SSG WASHINGTON	BR	FORT POLK
SSG HAYNES	BR	FORT POLK
SFC MCGHEE	BR	FORT SILL
SSG FLOYD	NEW ORLEANS	KUWAIT
		NETHERLANDS

## PROMOTIONS

MAJOR CALYES KYNARD  
 1SG MICHAEL GIBSON  
 SFC HAROLD GONZALEZ  
 SFC ROBERT MAXWELL  
 SFC JASON GAMBLE  
 SFC RICHARD ABBOTT  
 SFC SHERWOOD MAGEE  
 SFC ROBERT BLANCARD  
 SFC LAMAR CHANCELOR  
 SSG DEAN GRESHAM  
 SSG RICHARD TYNER



SSG Charles Pippins shows off his saxophone. The sax is a replica of a mural on a downtown building.

*Photo by Roger Harmon*