



U.S. Army photos by Staff Sgt. Michael Williams, CSJFTC Public Affairs  
 Above, a room apart from the weight room, Soldiers can now utilize the cardio room at the newly-renovated Camp Shelby Fitness Center Gymnasium. At right, with a room dedicated to nothing but weight lifting, Soldiers can now maintain their fitness.

# Gym renovation

## \$3.5M project nears completion

By SGT. MICHAEL WILLIAMS  
 CSJFTC Public Affairs

The estimated \$3.5 million Camp Shelby Fitness Center Gymnasium renovation project that began last August is nearing completion. According to Camp Shelby Special Services Supervisor Perry Conerly, the gym is scheduled to be complete by September. "They are making it larger," said Conerly. "We will have two separate rooms for the weights and cardio rooms. We have two separate whirlpools and saunas located in both the male and female latrines. The latrines themselves are even larger than what we originally had."



Saunas are located in both the male and female latrines at the newly-renovated Camp Shelby Fitness Center Gymnasium.

Conerly added, "We will still have a basketball court for the basketball players but we are also adding two racquetball courts."

The renovated gym features newly refurbished floors, restrooms and locker areas, painted walls, new electrical system and as well as doors and windows.

The new facility also features some new rules. Conerly said that anyone who wants to utilize the facility must show their military or Department of Defense identification card and sign in.

"In the old gym, we did have a rule that you could bring one guest with you but using the new facility, we are requiring everyone to have a military or DoD ID card. That's basically the change in

the rules from before."

For nearly 18 years, Conerly said he has tried to make improvements to the gymnasium but due to constraints, he made do with what he had in order to accommodate the Soldiers at Camp Shelby.

Years ago, the old weight room used to be part of the Class VI and Credit Union, before it moved to a building outside the south gate of Camp Shelby. Conerly said that he was told to renovate the space and make it into a weight room. With limited help, he said they tore out walls and patched up holes and painted everything.

According to Conerly, since the fitness center reopened its doors June 10, for the first four days, more than 400 Sol-

diers a day have come in to utilize the facility.

The renovated gym will add capacity to serve more service members, spouses, Family members and DoD civilians and relieve crowding at the fitness center.

"I have got some good comments on the new facility since we opened up," said Conerly. "They are really using it."

"Even though, a lot of them are requesting to use the whirlpool and sauna, but I can't open it until it is completely ready," said Conerly. "This is a fine facility and we are glad we are finally in this part of it and we can't wait till the back part of the facility is complete," he said. "It will be even nicer."



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Whirlpools have been added to the latrines at the Camp Shelby Fitness Center Gymnasium.