

# PERSONNEL PROFILE

## ENLISTED

By Sgt. Kenny Hatten

CSJFTC Public Affairs

Spc. Danielle McKensey is a Combat Medic with Company C (Medical), Regimental Support Squadron of the 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment. She is currently assigned to Force Protection Company B, 278th RSS, which is undergoing mobilization training here at Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center.

“Even though I’m a medic, I train in all fields,” said McKensey. “My day-to-day activities here include live fire ranges, cultural awareness classes and anything else that can prepare me for the mission to come.”



Danielle McKensey

McKensey has served nearly four years in the Tennessee Army National Guard, and said that as a medic, she is tasked with taking care of her fellow Soldiers by providing everything from treatment for everyday colds and aches to critical emergency trauma care.

Her motivation to join the military was very simple and straightforward, McKensey said. “I wanted to be a part of something bigger and better than myself and what better way to do that than to fight for our freedoms and help keep our country safe?”

“I chose the National Guard because it gave me the opportunity to join in the fight and finish my education at the same time,” she said.

McKensey was previously deployed on a CONUS (Continental United States) mission in Arizona, where she provided medical care and support to troops stationed along the U.S./Mexico border.

“My mission was to relieve the medics and to make sure all the Soldiers under my care were properly provided for,” she said. “I travelled up and down the line of border checkpoints, constantly checking on my Soldiers to make sure they got whatever they needed – from treatment of minor aches and pains to medical supplies and

emergency care.”

Now deployed at CSJFTC, McKensey said she finds the training here challenging, but admits it could be even more so, as far as she is concerned.

“I’m a tough, hard-charging Soldier who loves a challenge and competition,” she said. “I would love it if we trained even harder than we already do, like the Special Forces or the Rangers.”

McKensey said the instructors here are professional and very proficient at delivering the training to the Soldiers. “The instructors here are amazing,” she said. “They each have a different story, different talents and they all bring something extra to the table during their classes.”

“I think the training we’re receiving here will benefit us in more ways than we can imagine right now.”

In civilian life, McKensey graduated from D.C. Everest Senior High School in Weston, Wisc., in 2006. She is now a Pre-Med student majoring in Biology and Chemistry at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, where she plans to continue her degree program on her return from Iraq.

She is also a qualified Emergency Medical Technician-Basic and CPR certified as a result of her MOS (Military Occupational Specialty).

Back home, McKensey said she enjoys spending time with her loved ones and enjoying all the ‘little freedoms’ of being home.

“I miss my boyfriend, Scott,” said McKensey. “He’s a Ranger stationed in Georgia, and he just got back from a tour in Iraq, so now we’re trading places; he’s home and I’m on my way to Iraq.”

“I also miss my parents and my baby sister, Caylah, who is now having to deal with a big brother and big sister deploying to the Middle East at the same time, because my brother, Nicholas, is with the 82nd Airborne in Afghanistan.”

In her spare time, McKensey enjoys hanging out with friends, reading and watching her favorite TV programs.



**PRIOR VISITS MAYOR** – Col. William Prior, Commander of the 177th Armored Brigade at Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center, meets with Hattiesburg Mayor Johnny DuPree. During the visit, the two discussed ways to better both Camp Shelby JFTC and the Hattiesburg community, such as safely transporting mobilized Soldiers to local area businesses in the Hattiesburg area and suggestions to improve both military and civilian use of the local airport.

Sgt. Sharon Hinkle  
177th Armored Brigade  
Public Affairs

# PERSONNEL PROFILE

## CIVILIAN

By Sgt. Kenny Hatten

CSJFTC Public Affairs

Chris Frederick Conn of Petal is a System Analyst/Video Teleconference coordinator with Quantum Dynamics. He is currently working under contract to the Directorate of Information Management (DOIM) at Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center.

“I coordinate secure and unsecured video teleconferences with mobilizing and demobilizing troops so that pertinent info can be passed along between them,” said Conn. “I also troubleshoot any issues with equipment if they should arise.”



Chris Conn

Conn said he first started working at CSJFTC in June 2004, beginning at the DEERS/RAPIDS (Defense Eligibility Enrollment Reporting System/Real-time Automated Personnel Identification Database System) section in the Soldier Readiness Processing center. After more than three years there, Conn was promoted to his present job of Video Teleconference coordinator.

Conn said that his work environment at CSJFTC is great, professional and fun, and he enjoys working here very much.

“The people here are warm, friendly and professional,” said Conn. “We all have a job to do and we get it done.”

Conn said the job he does definitely helps to contribute to the overseas mobilization missions of the units deploying here.

“Our job allows the Soldiers here to communicate with other Soldiers who are already in country so that the guys mobilizing can better prepare themselves for their duties overseas,” he said.

“Plus, it’s an opportunity to meet people from all different parts of the country.”

A native of Brookhaven, Conn attended Topeka-Tilton Attendance Center in Jayess, where he graduated in 1984. He later attended Copiah-Lincoln Community College in Wesson, where he studied Computer Technology.

Conn also attended the Professional Education Center, where he received his certification in the RAPIDS/DEERS system, which qualified him for his employment at CSJFTC.

In his spare time, Conn spends time with his parents who live in Lawrence County, as well as playing on the computer and watching TV.

“I also dabble in photography,” he said. “Plus, I love the Hattiesburg area; there are plenty of things to do locally, as well as being within close driving distance to other cities like New Orleans and Pensacola.”

# 278th Soldiers undergo Media Awareness training

By Sgt. David Landrum

CSJFTC Public Affairs

A group of 12 Soldiers from Convoy Security Company A, 278th Regimental Support Squadron attended a Media Awareness training class Friday, Dec. 11, at the Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center Public Affairs Office. The class was designed to teach interview techniques, media interaction and handling crisis situations.

“The class provided good information,” said Spc. Robert Thurston, one of the Soldiers attending the class. “It’s good to be trained in other areas. It makes you a well-rounded Soldier.”

Sgt. Kenny Hatten, public affairs non-commissioned officer and Reveille editor, said the purpose of the class was to provide the small group with the tools and information that are necessary to conduct media operations in a deployed environment.

“The course covered the basics of interview techniques, such as proper stance and bearing, how to conduct the interview and how to keep the interview from straying outside the line of relevant questions,” Hatten said.

Spc. Kerrie Warwick said she learned a lot of things. She said she had always thought it was just a “get in front of the camera and let ‘er rip” mentality.

“I was surprised to learn of all the planning that goes on,” she said. “The command



Sgt. David Landrum, CSJFTC Public Affairs

Members of Convoy Security Company A, 278th Regimental Support Squadron follow read material during a Media Awareness class Dec. 11. The class, offered by the CSJFTC Public Affairs Office, was an opportunity for the 278th Soldiers to learn media interaction techniques.

messages really make a difference in an interview.”

Hatten said the class was well received and many had expressed a desire to further

their knowledge into public affairs. Once in country overseas, the small group will take over the publication of the Camp Taji Times, a newsletter for units stationed there.

Thurston said training like this is something everyone should go through. “It’s a skill that you could pass on,” he said.

**SAVING A LIFE** – Working in the Directorate of Plans, Training, Mobilization and Security (DPTMS) section, Spc. Allen Smith’s normal work day would consist of patrolling Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center, but on July 27, 2009, Smith did more than patrol duties. He was called for medical support, but was expecting to only support the Camp Shelby medical team. But to his surprise, he had to do more than assist. Once Smith arrived on scene, the Soldier stopped breathing and Smith had to revive him. Smith performed CPR and the Soldier began to breathe again. Smith then continued to assist the Soldier until Camp Shelby JFTC First Responders and AAA Ambulance service arrived. Smith was honored with an Army Commendation Medal from Col. Steve Parham, Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center Installation Commander.



# Airmen say farewell to Shelby, hello to Iraq

By Sgt. David Landrum

CSJFTC Public Affairs

Airmen of Police Transition Team Detachment 1 said goodbye to Camp Shelby during a farewell sendoff Dec. 17. The sendoff, attended by Brig. Gen Jimmy E. McMillian, Director of Security Forces for the U.S. Air Force, brought to a close months of training in preparation for their deployment to Iraq. McMillian said it’s nice to have event like farewells because it lets the troops know they are loved and appreciated.

“The troops have to know people care about them,” the general said. “They have to know there is someone in their corner who is always available to them to help them get the mission done.”

The PTT is a security force company composed of 168 individuals from 56 active duty Air Force bases. Once in Iraq, the PTT will train members of the Iraqi police in such areas as warrants, patrols and suspect apprehension. Maj. David Mark Lederer, PTT Det. 1 commander, said the training received at Camp Shelby has been invaluable.

“The training has been very good,” Maj. David Mark Lederer, Police Transition Team Det. 1 commander, said. “They have a lot of good instructors that bring a lot of experience into the class-

## Honors, Awards, Promotions

### Army Achievement Medal

- Sgt. 1st Class Larry Duncan
- Staff Sgt. Jackqueline Herring
- Sgt. Kenny Hatten
- Sgt. Michael Williams