

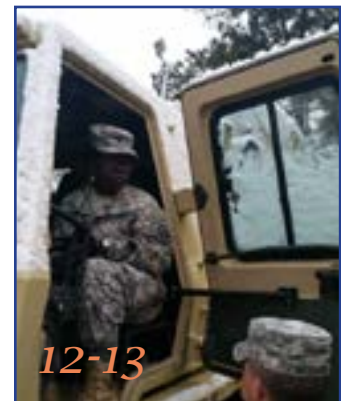
**228TH THEATER  
TACTICAL  
SIGNAL BRIGADE  
FALL 2014**



*Signal Ready, Signal Strong*

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Signal Ready, Signal Strong



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**Commander:**  
Col. Wallace Hall

**Command Sergeant Major:**  
Command Sgt. Maj.  
William Bostic

**Deputy Commander:**  
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**Contributions:**  
Lt. Col. John Ramsey  
Maj. James Dangerfield  
2nd Lt. Jonathan Browder  
Sgt. 1st Class Chad Stafford

*On the Cover*



*A participant in the Best Warrior Competition plots his points for the land navigation course. Oct. 31 at the University Readiness Center in Spartanburg, S.C.*



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# Commander's Corner

*Message from  
Col. Wallace Hall,  
Brigade Commander*



***Col. Wallace Hall spoke during an officer's meeting Nov. 1 at the University Readiness Center in Spartanburg, S.C. This meeting provided an opportunity for all the officers throughout the brigade to get information on events happening in the year to come for the 228th TTSB.***

I want to thank all the members of the 228th Theater Tactical Signal Brigade and their families for making 2014 a successful year.

The 228th was well represented when our very own Sgt. Brandon Bright won Best Warrior this past January for the State and went on to compete at the regional level, taking third place. I look forward to seeing more from the Brigade as Sgt. Brian Lemieux and Spc. Lyubomir Mironenko compete in the upcoming State competition. Check out the story and photos from the brigade-level competition within to see what these soldiers faced to be chosen. This was no easy competition and I am proud of all those who participated.

We also had the opportunity to help our local community by providing support during Winter Storm PAX in February. Our soldiers responded to the call to provide 24-hour support to the South Carolina Highway Patrol with wrecker teams across the

upstate during the recovery operations. Building and maintaining these partnerships with first responders is so important because it can make the difference of saving lives during a natural disaster. For this reason, we will be partnering with first responders again in March as part of Vigilant Guard, which is a state-wide exercise that helps prepare for natural disasters or other emergencies within the state.

The 228th TTSB also showed the active duty Army that they are an essential asset during annual training at Fort McCoy, Wisconsin. Our soldiers installed, operated and maintained communication equipment across seven remote locations and provided support to the 335th Signal Command from March 20 – April 14. With draw-downs and budget cuts, it is increasingly important to show our worth and the soldiers of the 228th are up to that challenge.

One of our biggest accomplishments of the year was welcoming home nearly 130 soldiers

from B Co., 198th Expeditionary Signal Battalion from Afghanistan. These soldiers spent nearly a year away from their friends and family and I am proud to see them back in South Carolina.

These are but a few of the many great things our units and Soldiers accomplished and achieved over the past year. The entire Brigade, soldiers and families, is postured to move forward and take on any new challenges that may face us! The Signal Regiment is more than ready!

As we move through this Holiday Season and into the New Year, allow all the joys and happiness this time brings to us, to renew our strength and faith in each other. Taking care of each other is the key to who we are. Also, remember those who have passed

on, or have endured significant hardships over the past year! Keep these individuals and their families in your thoughts and prayers. Reach out if time allows. Lastly, please be safe as you go about your daily lives and remember to check on your “battle buddy”! There is no doubt in my mind you all will continue to go above and beyond in 2015. Thank you for your continued service and I look forward to another great year. Lastly, from my wife and our families, Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!!

Signal ready,  
signal strong.

*Signal Ready, Signal Strong*

# 228th Theater Tactical Signal Brigade

# Best Warrior Competition

Story and photos by  
1st Lt. Jessica Donnelly

The 228th Theater Tactical Signal Brigade conducted the Best Warrior Competition Oct. 31 - Nov. 2 at the University Readiness Center in Spartanburg, S.C. to identify the Best Warrior NCO and Best Warrior Soldier to represent the brigade at the state-level competition.

Sgt. Brian Lemieux was selected as the Best Warrior Noncommissioned Officer and Spc. Lyubomir Mironenko was selected as the Best Warrior Soldier for the 228th TTSB.

"It was a challenging competition because you're doing tasks that you don't normally do," said Lemieux. "But I try to do my best in everything I do."

The tasks included an Army Physical Fitness

**"Every event has a real-world application behind it. Whether it's attention to detail or getting a last minute task and making it happen, these are all situations that soldiers will face in their military careers."**

-Command Sgt. Maj. William Bostic  
228th TTSB command sergeant major

Test, land navigation and ruck march combination event, Warrior Tasks and Battle Drills, a written test, an essay, individual weapons qualification and an appearance in front of a board of high ranking enlisted leadership from the brigade.

"Every event has a real-world application behind it," said Command Sgt. Maj. William Bostic, 228th TTSB command sergeant major. "Whether it's attention to detail or getting a last minute task and making it happen, these are all situations that soldiers will face in

their military careers."

He added that these tasks are meant to be skill sets that every soldier is expected to be familiar with, regardless of military occupational specialty, so that no one soldier has an unfair advantage based on their military experience. The WTBDs included performing first aid for a bleeding extremity, searching a detainee, evaluating a casualty, conducting a SALUTE report (size, activity, location, uniform, time and equipment), and calling up a nine-line medevac.

The events are designed to be physically and mentally challenging to push the soldiers out of their comfort zones and see how they operate under strenuous conditions.

"It was definitely a soldier's challenge," said Spc. Kenneth Wingard, 198th ESB Bravo Company competitor.

Each competitor was chosen by their assigned company to compete at the brigade-level based on past accomplishments and performance. The competitors included Sgt. Bri-

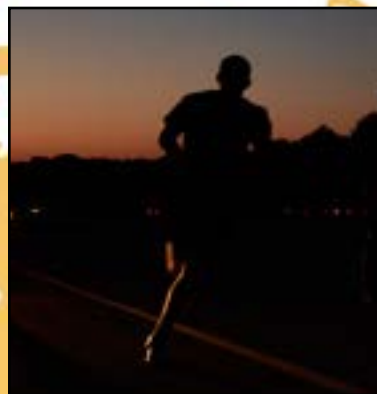
an Lemieux, 228th TTSB Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Staff Sgt. Brittney Clinkscales, 151st Expeditionary Signal Battalion HHC, Sgt. Jason McGaha, 151st ESB Alpha Company, Pfc. Reard Patton, 151st ESB Alpha Company, Sgt. Robert Dendy Jr., 151st ESB Bravo Company, Spc. Lyubomir Mironenko, 151st ESB Bravo Company, Sgt. Cody Mynatt, 198th ESB Bravo Company, and Spc. Kenneth Wingard, 198th ESB Bravo Company.

Lemieux and Mironenko will compete in the weeklong state competition in January 2015 against competitors from units across South Carolina. As representatives of the brigade, they have a great deal to live up to with the winner of the 2014 state competition being Sgt. Brandon Bright of the 228th TTSB.

Mynatt and Wingard were chosen as runner ups and will take the place of Lemieux or Mironenko if they are not able to compete.



The eight competitors from companies throughout the brigade took an early morning Army Physical Fitness Test Oct. 31 at the University Readiness Center in Spartanburg, S.C., for the first event of the Best Warrior Competition.



# A look at the 228th TTSB Best Warrior Competition competitors



**Spc. Kenneth Wingard, 198th ESB Bravo Co.,** is an information technology specialist with three years of service. He recently deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom as a network administrator. His goals include reclassifying as a musician and commissioning into the officer corps.



**Sgt. Cody Mynatt, 198th ESB Bravo Co.,** is a nodal network systems operator-maintainer with more than four years of service. He recently returned from deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom where he served as a network operations NCO. His goals include commissioning into the warrant officer corps.



**Spc. Lyubomir Mironenko, 151st ESB Bravo Co.,** serves as a LAN manager with nearly two and a half years in the military. He was named as the Best Warrior Soldier for the battalion and brigade last year and finished as the runner up at the state level competition. His goals are to be promoted to sergeant and potentially commissioning into the warrant officer corps.

**Pfc. Reard Patton, 151st ESB Alpha Co.,** is a food service specialist with a year and a half of military service. His goals include becoming a NCO and eventually attending Special Forces Assessment/Selection and getting selected for the Special Forces Qualification Course.



**Sgt. Robert Dendy Jr., 151st ESB Bravo Co.,** has been in the Army for six years and currently serves as a transmission system operator. He has deployed in support of Operations Iraq Freedom and New Dawn. His goals include being promoted to staff sergeant and attending Advanced Leaders Course.



**Staff Sgt. Brittney Clinkscales, 151st Expeditionary Signal Battalion HHC,** has served nearly 11 years and currently holds the position of communications security account manager. She has deployed in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. Her goals include being promoted to sergeant first class, cross training into other military occupational specialties and seeking additional responsibilities within the unit.



**Sgt. Brian Lemieux, 228th TTSB Headquarters and Headquarters Company,** has dedicated 11 years in the military and currently serves as the unit's supply sergeant. He has deployed to Iraq and Kuwait with the 1-151st Attack Reconnaissance Battalion. His goals include continuing to advance in the NCO ranks, while honing his warrior skills, leading soldiers, and eventually becoming a property book officer.



**Sgt. Jason McGaha, 151st ESB Alpha Co.,** has served 18 years in the Army and is currently assigned as a senior transmission systems operator-maintainer. His goals include being promoted to staff sergeant and eventually retiring from the South Carolina National Guard.



*Tasks for the Best Warrior Competition included an Army Physical Fitness Test, land navigation and ruck march combination event, Warrior Tasks and Battle drills, a written test, an essay, individual weapons qualification and an appearance in front of a board of high ranking enlisted leadership from the brigade. The competition took place Oct. 31 - Nov. 2 at the University Readiness Center in Spartanburg, S.C. where competitors from companies throughout the brigade competed to be named the Best Warrior NCO and Best Warrior Soldier.*



# 228th 7758 Holiday Parties



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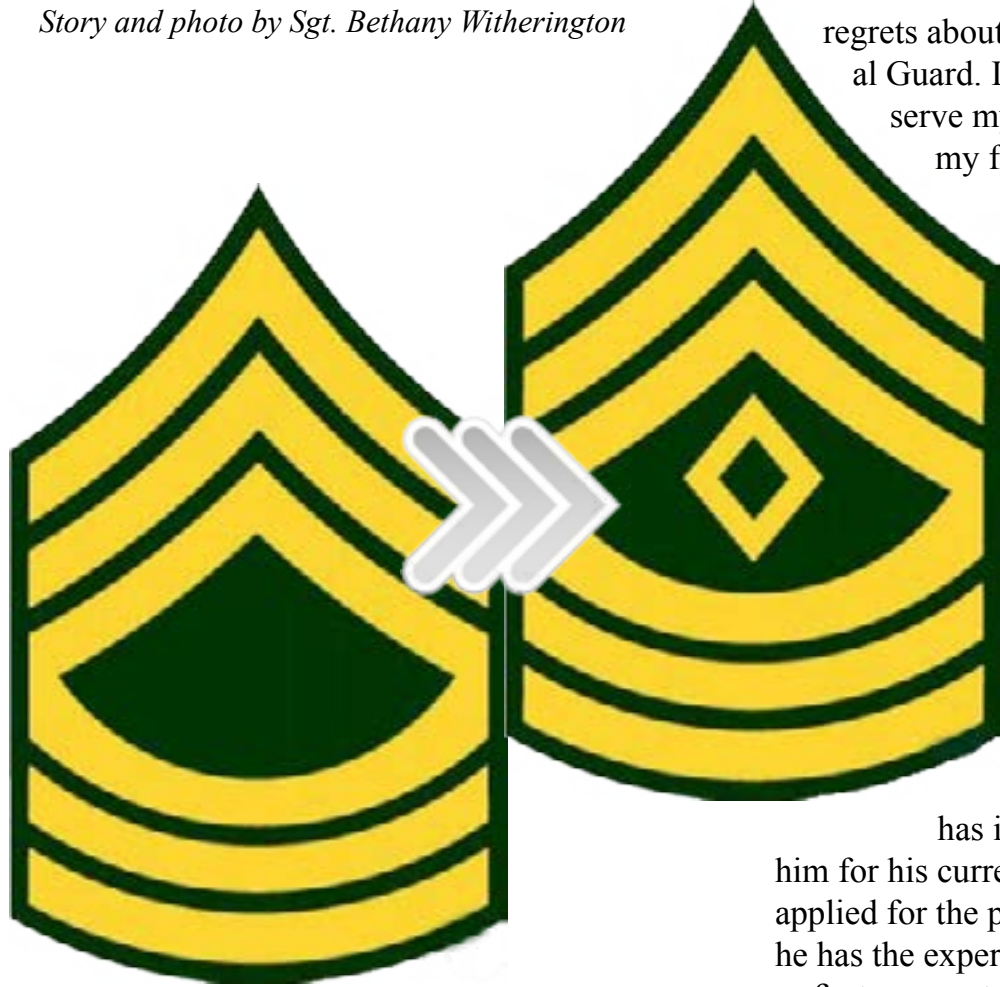


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1. Chaplain Charles Poore hosted a candlelight service for friends and family Dec. 6 at the University Readiness Center in Spartanburg, S.C. (Photo by Maj. James Dangerfield)
2. Full-time staff worked for three days to prepare the holiday meal for the unit members and their families at the University Readiness Center in Spartanburg, S.C. (Photo by 1st Lt. Jessica Donnelly)
3. Members of the Greenwood High School show choir performed at the 151st Expeditionary Signal Battalion, A Co. holiday party, Dec. 7. (Photo by 2nd Lt. Jonathan Browder)
4. Santa visited at the University Readiness Center in Spartanburg, S.C. Dec. 6. (Photo by 1st Lt. Jessica Donnelly)
5. Toys were provided to children of unit members as part of Operation Homefront. (Photo by 1st Lt. Jessica Donnelly)
6. Santa also visited at A Company's holiday party in Greenwood, S.C. Dec. 7. (Photo by 2nd Lt. Jonathan Browder)
7. Friends and family gathered in Greenwood, S.C. for the 151st Expeditionary Signal Battalion, A Co. holiday party, Dec. 7. (Photo by 2nd Lt. Jonathan Browder)

# 228th TTSB, HHC appoints new first sergeant

Story and photo by Sgt. Bethany Witherington



regrets about my career with the Army National Guard. I joined because it allowed me to serve my country and be an active part of my family's life like I wanted."

During his years of service Miller has deployed twice to Afghanistan and once to Kuwait. The last deployment was with the 228th Theater Tactical Signal Brigade as the Joint Network Operations Control Center-Afghanistan acting sergeant major. He said it was his most memorable because it allowed him to experience more as a senior enlisted soldier and it challenged him the most.

Miller said that having held the supervisory positions he has in the past have helped prepare him for his current position as first sergeant. He applied for the position because he feels as though he has the experience it takes to fulfill the duties as first sergeant and is looking forward to the challenge.

"I have served with First Sgt. Miller for more than ten years and can say without a doubt that his self-motivation and willingness to get to know his soldiers will help him to know the right way to lead in this position," said Command Sgt. Maj. William Bostic, 228th TTSB command sergeant major.

The first sergeant position serves as the advisor to the company commander on all enlisted matters including enlisted development, physical fitness training and soldier health, morale, safety, mentoring and discipline. Miller is replacing First Sgt. Ken Green who was promoted to sergeant major Aug. 3 to serve as the operations sergeant major for the 228th TTSB.

**M**aster Sgt. Joseph Miller Jr. was appointed as the 228th Theater Tactical Signal Brigade Headquarters and Headquarters Company first sergeant, Oct. 18, at the University Readiness Center in Spartanburg, S.C.

Miller has served 23 years in the Army National Guard with four different units, filling five different positions and has deployed three times. He said he plans on staying in until he is no longer able to meet the Army National Guard standards or make a contribution.

"I was so proud of my country and wanted to do something for it, so I decided to join the Army National Guard," said Miller. "I have no



*Master Sgt. Joseph Miller Jr. was appointed as the 228th Theater Tactical Signal Brigade Headquarters and Headquarters Company first sergeant, Oct. 18, at the University Readiness Center in Spartanburg, S.C.*



# SCENES FROM AROUND DRILL

*Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Chad Stafford*



*Cadet Jacqueline Allen received her first salute as a second lieutenant from Sgt. Brian Lemieux. Allen has served in the 228th Theater Tactical Signal Brigade performing multiple duties as a cadet. As a commissioned officer she will serve in the active Army in the Medical Corp.*



*Members of the 228th Theater Tactical Signal Brigade received their flu shot over November drill at the University Readiness Center in Spartanburg, S.C. in order to help prevent the spread of influenza and support mission readiness. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommends that people get their seasonal flu vaccine as soon as vaccines are available in their community. It's best to get vaccinated before December, since this timing ensures protective antibodies are in place before flu activity is typically at its highest.*

*Members of the 228th Theater Tactical Signal Brigade set up a Tactical Operations Center to simulate a real-world layout in preparation for Defense Support of Civil Authorities missions, such as winter storms, as well as Vigilant Guard, a statewide natural disaster exercise scheduled for March that provides the National Guard the opportunity to improve cooperation with civilian, military and federal partners in preparation for emergencies and catastrophic events. The setup included identifying location of personnel in a real-world mission, updating computers and software and ensuring equipment is operational.*



*Parts of South Carolina woke up to snowfall Nov. 1, including the 151st Expeditionary Signal Battalion, Alpha Co. in Greenwood, S.C.*



*Photos by 2nd Lt. Jonathan Browder*



*Photos by 1st Lt. Jessica Donnelly unless otherwise noted*

# Final Frame

Photo provided by Lt. Col. John Ramsey



Members of the 228th TTSB competed as a team in the 30th annual Army 10 Miler, Oct 12 in the District of Columbia. From left to right: Laina Ramsey (wife of Lt. Col. Ramsey), Lt. Col. John Ramsey, Lt. Col. Will Brown and Capt. Adam Frowein.

## Signal Ready, Signal Strong



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