

AnacondaTimes

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PROUDLY SERVING LSA ANACONDA



Photo by Maj. Jay Adams

BG Terry bids farewell

Commanding general reflects on mission of 13th SC(E).

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Web Image

Soldiers of Quarter, Year, SAMC awarded

The newest members of Sgt. Audie Murphy Club were announced in an award ceremony, along with the Soldier and NCO of the Quarter and Year.

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Mass casualty exercise

Training reveals weakness, identifies strengths.

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Photo by Sgt. Jasmine Chopra

Sgt. 1st Class Andre Chavez (left), platoon leader in the 2-82 FA, accompanies Lt. Col. James Lukehart, deputy of the command management section for the 411th, on a mission to get clean water to villagers in Albu Assial.

Soldiers meet needs of Iraqis, make life better for both

by Sgt. Jasmine Chopra

Anaconda Times staff

LSA ANACONDA, Iraq — Clean water is often taken for granted, yet more than a billion people do not have access to safe water according to The World Health Organization. In many villages throughout Iraq, lack of clean water, not war wounds is the main cause of death. Thanks to the 411th Engineer Brigade and the 2nd Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment, many villagers will be getting reliable, clean running water for the first time in their lives.

"This will mean a level of cleanliness and health not seen

before in villages," said Brig. Gen. Michael J. Silva, 411th commander.

Assisting the people of Iraq serves as a mantra for Soldiers in the 411th.

"Our motto is 'plan, build, protect.' I added 'assisting Iraq' for this deployment," said Silva.

Taking the 411th motto to heart, Lt. Col. James Lukehart, deputy of the command management section for the 411th, made getting clean water to villagers one of his most important missions.

Lukehart provides technical guidance on construction projects including one that brings

potable water to villagers and effectively deals with waste.

"It was part of my commander's intent to make sure we made a positive difference in their (Iraqis) life. This project is making positive changes," Silva said.

A few villages are already connected to the pipeline and are receiving clean water, contributing to a reduction in water-borne illness casualties, he said.

The pipeline and water treatment facility were funded by the Commander's Emergency Response Program (CERP), which in Iraq and Afghanistan, allows commanders to fund projects to

meet the emergency needs of local Iraqi and Afghan civilians. Projects CERP has funded in Iraq include bulldozing mountains of trash, repairing medical clinics, distributing emergency preparedness kits, and revitalizing damaged buildings.

"We have been using CERP funds to do a multitude of projects in our area of operations, ranging from building additional classrooms in schools to laying pipe lines to run potable water to villages that have never had clean water before, said Capt. Dave A. Norris, commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 2nd Battalion, 82nd

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13th SC(E) CG bids farewell

by Sgt. Joel F. Gibson

13th SC(E) PAO

LSA ANACONDA, Iraq — The commanding general of the 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) reflected on the accomplishments of his seven brigade, 20,000 Soldier command in an interview July 19 here with the Multi-National Corps-Iraq command historian.

“As we prepared for this operation, we came in with the idea that forces in the theater would be downsizing,” said Brig. Gen. Michael J. Terry, commanding general of the 13th SC(E) during an hour long interview with Marine Col. Michael D. Visconage.

It wasn’t too long before the surge changed the battlefield landscape significantly, said Terry.

“We saw a change in the mission, and we knew we needed to get ahead of it before it happened,” Terry said. “We knew we had five brigade combat teams coming in; each type of unit with different levels of consumption of different types of supplies.”

Command Sgt. Maj. Terry Fountain, command sergeant major of the 13th SC(E), said, “We increased our workload and kept the supplies flowing ceaselessly.”

“This is a distribution fight for us, getting the right things to the right place at the right time,” Terry said.

According to Terry, to meet the needs of the mission 13th SC(E) units had to maintain maximum flexibility.

“We transitioned several units from what they were doing to convoy security missions. So we incrementally increased the convoy security to meet mission requirements,”



Photo by Sgt. Joel F. Gibson

Brig. Gen. Michael J. Terry, commanding general of the 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), conducts an interview with Marine Col. Mike Visconage, Multi-National Corps-Iraq historian, at the 13th SC(E) headquarters building here July 19.

said Terry.

“There are two critical areas that explain why we have been so successful. The first is a great staff, and the second is the presence of our great brigades. Having brigade commanders who can work independently and accomplish individual mission objectives paid off big.”

“Each division in theater has one of our subordinate brigades supporting it logistically.

“This is a distribution fight for us, getting the right things to the right place at the right time.”

Brig. Gen. Michael J. Terry
13th SC(E)

The key to this relationship is that these brigades are tight at the hip with the division they

support.”

“[Each sustainment brigade was] completely tuned in to the needs of the division they supported; they were the divisions’ logisticians,” Terry added.

The MNC-I historian conducted a series of interviews with key leaders in the 13th headquarters and supplemented that by also interviewing battalion and company leaders. He closed out his study by joining a combat logistics

patrol from here to Baghdad.

The interviews were designed to capture the critical role of the 13th SC(E) and its leadership in sustaining the roughly 160,000 Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines currently serving in Iraq.

The 316th Expeditionary Sustainment Command is set to take over the responsibilities of the 13th SC(E) in a ceremony scheduled for early August.

ANACONDA TIMES

316th ESC Commanding General, Brig. Gen. Gregory E. Couch

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CJSOTF-AP



Photo by Pfc. Gaelen Lowers

Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, commander of Multinational Division Center and the 3rd Infantry Division, addresses a crowd of Soldiers at a reenlistment ceremony at Forward Operating Base Q-West.

Gen. Lynch re-enlists Soldiers at FOB Q-West

by Pfc. Gaelen Lowers
3rd SB PAO

FOB Q-WEST, Iraq — Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, commanding general of Multi-National Division-Center and Fort Stewart’s 3rd Infantry Division, paid a visit to Forward Operating Base (FOB) Q-West July 23.

He received a brief from FOB commanders and staff members and conducted a reenlistment ceremony.

Lynch reenlisted seven Soldiers who decided to stay in the Army and told them of the importance of their decision to raise their right hand that day.

“You are indeed at a point in time where you’re making history,” Lynch said to the group of Soldiers from the 3rd Sustainment Brigade. “I don’t understand how people can go through life and do nothing but read history. We’re making history.”

Lynch said he was proud to reenlist the Soldiers in the Army and took the time to remind brigade members why they were in Iraq.

“I can leave the Army in five years or ten years and it will be ok,” Lynch said turning toward Sgt. Ericca Cates, a 3rd Sustainment Brigade paralegal and a reenlistee. “We’re protecting our freedoms and our way of life. We do what we do for our kids and grandkids.”



Courtesy Photo by Lt. Col. James Lukehart

Clean water flows freely at a CERP funded water treatment facility in the village of Al Bakir. Many local villages are already enjoying the benefit of water treated at the facility and several more villages are slated to be connected to the pipeline.

Field Artillery Regiment.

“To date we have completed 35 CERP funded projects and have spent over \$1 million in CERP funds.”

One of the novel and most significant features of CERP is it creates jobs for local Iraqis, said Lukehart.

“Our projects have employed over 1,000 Iraqis, which allows many to do an honest day’s work and avoid becoming involved in nefarious activities to make a livelihood for themselves and their families,” Norris said.

Improving the quality of life for Iraqis is building better relationships between

Iraqis and Soldiers, he said.

“Many locals have a better understanding that we are here to help them, and because we have followed through on multiple projects, we have fostered many positive relationships and have reduced many of the indirect fire and IED attacks around the (camp),” said Norris.

Building a sewage infrastructure, delivering clean water, and completing projects that improve life for Iraqis is no easy task, but servicemembers are following through and both Iraqis and servicemembers are enjoying the benefits, said Lukehart.

Worship services

PROTESTANT – TRADITIONAL

- Sunday 9:30 a.m. USAF Hospital Chapel
- 9:30 a.m. Provider Chapel
- 10 a.m. Freedom Chapel (West Side)
- 5 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)
- 7:30 p.m. Air Force Hospital Chapel

PROTESTANT – GOSPEL

- Sunday 11 a.m. MWR East Building
- 11:30 a.m. Freedom Chapel (West Side)
- 2 p.m. Air Force Hospital
- 7 p.m. Provider Chapel

PROTESTANT – PRAISE & WORSHIP

- Sunday 9 a.m. MWR East Building
- 9 a.m. Eden Chapel
- 7 p.m. Freedom Chapel (West Side)
- 7:30 p.m. Eden Chapel

PROTESTANT – SAMOAN CONGREGATIONAL

- Sunday 4 p.m. Provider Chapel

PROTESTANT – CONTEMPORARY

- Sunday 10 a.m. Town Hall (H-6)
- Wednesday 8 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)

NON-DENOMINATIONAL

- Sunday 9 a.m. Signal Chapel

NON-DENOMINATIONAL SPANISH

- Sunday 2 p.m. Freedom Chapel (West Side)

LATTER DAY SAINTS (LDS)

- Sunday 1 p.m. Provider Chapel
- 3:30 p.m. Freedom Chapel (West Side)
- 4 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)

ROMAN CATHOLIC MASS

- (Sacrament of Reconciliation 30 min prior to Mass)
- Saturday 5 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)
- 8 p.m. Freedom Chapel
- 9:30 p.m. Air Force Theater Hospital Chapel
- Sunday 9 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)
- 11 a.m. Provider Chapel
- Mon-Fri 5 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)

CHURCH OF CHRIST

- Sunday 2 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)

ISLAMIC PRAYER

- Friday 12:30 p.m. Provider Chapel

PROTESTANT-LITURGICAL

- Sunday 7 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)
- Wednesday 8 a.m. Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)

FRIDAY SHABBAT SERVICE

- Friday 7 p.m. Tuskegee Chapel (H-6)

Combat Stress Control

113th Medical Company (CSC)

433-2402

Individual counseling by appointment or walk-in

Command referrals

Services for combat and operationally stressed soldiers

RELAXATION TECHNIQUES

MONDAY TO SATURDAY

3:30 TO 4 P.M.

STRESS MANAGEMENT

MONDAY AND THURSDAY

10 TO 11 A.M.

HOME FRONT ISSUES

MONDAY AND THURSDAY

5 TO 6 P.M.

CONFLICT RESOLUTION

WEDNESDAY AND SATURDAY

11 A.M. TO NOON

ANGER MANAGEMENT

TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

11 A.M. TO NOON

ANXIETY AWARENESS

WEDNESDAY

3 TO 3:30 P.M.

SATURDAY

10:30 TO 11 A.M.

SLEEP HYGIENE

MONDAY AND THURSDAY

6 TO 6:30 P.M.

GOAL SETTING

MONDAY AND THURSDAY

11 A.M. TO NOON

DEPRESSION AWARENESS

WEDNESDAY

2 TO 3 P.M.

SATURDAY

10 TO 10:30 A.M.

COMMUNICATION SKILLS

TUESDAY AND FRIDAY

10 TO 11 A.M.

RELATIONSHIP SKILLS

WEDNESDAY

9 TO 11 A.M.

for more information,
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433-2402

Thunder Rolls to Q-West

by Pfc. Gaelen Lowers

3rd SB PAO

FOB Q-WEST, Iraq — Thunder Roll, an Air Force band attached to the U.S. Central Air Force Band, made a morale and welfare visit to the service-members and civilians here July 25.

Thunder Roll's band members hail from the Texas National Guard Band, Fort Worth, Texas, and Robins Air Force Base, Ga.

The nine member band, including their audio engineer, was hand picked by Air Force Capt. Jeff C. Mathews, band director and trombone player, based on their skill level and auditions performance.

"Each member is expected to be at a certain basic level," said Air Force Staff Sgt. James W. Doyle, lead percussionist.

The band plays a variety of songs chosen by each of the band members: from popular modern day tracks like KT Tunstall's "Black Horse and a Cherry Tree," "Free Falling" by Tom Petty and "Fallin'" by Alicia Keys, to golden classics like "I Love Rock and Roll" by Joan Jet. The band also performed a remake of "Whatta Man" by Salt N Pepa & En Vogue.



Photo by Pfc. Gaelen Lowers

Thunder Roll, an Air Force band attached to the U.S. Central Air Force Band., plays KT Tunstall's "Black Horse and a Cherry Tree" at a concert put on at FOB Q-West, Iraq July 25.

"I call it my Enduring Freedom version," said Air Force Master Sgt. Erika L. Stevens, singer and keyboardist for the band.

During the performance, audience members were encouraged to join in the fun by singing along, dancing in the aisles or even just clapping their hands.

Staff Sgt. Emilio M. Soto, Force Protection non-commissioned officer (NCO) at FOB Q-West, went up on stage and played cow bell to Lynard Skynard's "Gimme Three Steps."

Maj. Jason W. Shepherd from Q-West's Mayor Cell played harmonica and sang to George Thorogood's "Who Do You Love" and "Stormy Monday Blues" by T Bone Walker.

The band, who spent most of

their time in Camp Anaconda in Balad, Iraq, will travel south to visit other camps and FOBs throughout Iraq as well as Kuwait, Afghanistan and Africa.

"It's a morale booster for the troops," says Stevens.

While walking around a hospital in Balad, Soldiers with critical injuries told band members the band raised their motivation and spirits.

"We had one Soldier tell us that our music helps heal physically and emotionally," said Doyle, "which was very touching."



Photos by Pfc. Gaelen Lowers

(Above) Maj. Jason W. Shepherd from Q-West's Mayor Cell plays harmonica and sings George Thorogood's "Who Do You Love" and "Stormy Monday Blues" by T Bone Walker at a concert put on by Thunder Roll, an Air Force band attached to the U.S. Central Air Force Band here July 25.

(Left) Staff Sgt. Emilio M. Soto, Force Protection non-commissioned officer at FOB Q-West, plays cow bell to Lynard Skynard's "Gimme Three Steps."

Al-Qaeda training camp destroyed in southern Baghdad

by Senior Airman Olufemi A. Owolabi
332nd AEW

BALAD AIR BASE, Iraq — Air Force F-16 Fighting Falcons from the 332nd Air Expeditionary Wing destroyed an al-Qaeda training camp southwest of Baghdad July 24.

In a coordinated attack, Air Force joint air terminal controllers on the ground cleared seven F-16s to drop precision guided bombs on the terror complex near Karbala. The precision guided weapons destroyed the target, degrading al-Qaeda’s ability to mount attacks on the Iraqi government, coalition forces and innocent civilians.

“I could not be prouder of the way our Airmen performed on Saturday. The events of this past weekend once again demonstrate the Air Force’s ability to deliver decisive combat airpower any place and at any time,” said Col. Charles Moore, 332nd Expeditionary Operations Group commander.

The destruction of the terrorist facility is part of aggressive and comprehensive operations to hunt down, capture or



Two F-16 Fighting Falcons go through arming at the end of a runway before heading out on a combat mission in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The two F-16s are deployed from the Oklahoma Air National Guard’s 138th Fighter Wing at the Tulsa International Airport.

kill terrorists trying to prevent a peaceful and stable Iraq, said Moore.


“Our Airmen and other coalition forces are helping Iraq achieve a stable government and ultimately, helping the United States and our allies to defeat terrorism,” he said.

A large part of the 332nd AEW’s combat effectiveness stems from the Air Force’s culture of excellence.


Capt. Kevin Hicok, a pilot with the 13th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron, said, “We train day-to-day to make sure when we are called upon to deliver, we do it with precision and professionalism.”

“Deliberate coordination and careful planning goes into every weapons drop,” said Hicok, “to ensure that we have a positive ID on the target and that everyone is on the same page.”


The recent increase in air operations is part of the coalition’s increasing pressure on violent extremists, primarily in Baghdad and nearby areas.




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'Operation Iraqi Heart,' U.S. Special Operations Forces, Army Civil Affairs rally to aid al-Anbar Province child

by Senior Master Sgt. Charles Ramey
CJSOTF-AP

FALLUJAH, Iraq — Even though she's surrounded by war, Dalal is not much different than other children her age. She likes jump rope and Cinderella and enjoys reading and drawing. Her favorite classes are religion and language and she recently completed second grade -- earning perfect marks in all her studies. But, unlike many of her peers, the 8-year-old Iraqi has also fought a life-threatening battle from within since birth.

Due to the efforts of a U.S. Special Forces medic and a U.S. Army Civil Affairs noncommissioned officer, all of that changed recently and Dalal was granted a new lease on life.

July 23, Dalal received an operation in Amman, Jordan, to correct a heart defect known as Tetralogy of Fallot.

The congenital disease causes a decreased flow of blood to the lungs, as well as the mixing of blood from separate chambers of the heart. Left unattended, Dalal's prognosis could have meant death around the time she hit puberty.

"The surgery went smoothly and took approximately three hours to complete," said Pediatric Cardiologist Dr. Khaled Salaymeh shortly after the operation. "We had to close a hole in one area of her heart and patch and enlarge another area. She was fully awake shortly after the surgery and doing excellent."

Dalal's journey to the operating room began in Western Iraq several months ago.

"The previous (Special Forces) team here discovered her," said Staff Sgt. Joe Murtaugh, a U.S. Special Forces medical sergeant assigned to the Al Anbar Province.

"Her father had an electrocardiogram from when she was 3 years old diagnosing her with the condition. Since so much time had passed, they had him take her to where she could get another test and the diagnosis came back the same."

While reviewing Dalal's medical records, Murtaugh found an e-mail address for the International Organization of Migration in Jordan



Photo by Staff Sgt. Marikay Satryano

(Above) A dentist extracts an infected tooth from Dalal, an 8-year-old from Iraq's Al Anbar Province, in Amman, Jordan. Dalal received surgery July 23 to correct a life threatening congenital heart defect. The tooth had to be removed to prevent the spread of infection to Dalal's heart. A U.S. Army Civil Affairs noncommissioned officer arranged the dental care and lifesaving surgery at no cost to the family. U.S. Special Operations Forces played a major role in arranging travel so Dalal and her father could make the trip to Jordan.

(Below) U.S. Special Forces Medic Staff Sgt. Joe Murtaugh watches as Dalal, an Iraqi child from the Al Anbar Province, draws a picture July 14, 2007. Sergeant Murtaugh escorted the 8-year-old and her father to Baghdad so they could catch a free flight to Amman, Jordan. U.S. Special Operations Forces played a major role in arranging travel so Dalal and her father could make the trip to Jordan. Sergeant Murtaugh assisted the family with passports and arranged for Dalal to have the lifesaving surgery. He also created a slide show to generate awareness about Dalal's plight and raised more than \$1,000 for Gift of Life International -- one of three organizations splitting the cost of Dalal's surgery.

"We appreciate that they (the Americans) care about us... I know you are here doing another job and I am thankful for all you do."

Dalal's father

and contacted them for assistance.

"They directed us to several contacts but the most important was Marikay (Army Staff Sgt. Marikay Satryano). She took care of all the logistical details in Jordan and even arranged for three organizations to cover the \$8,000 cost of Dalal's Surgery."

A Civil Affairs specialist

See **Heart**, Page 11



Photo by Master Sgt. Melissa Phillips

Sgt. Audie Murphy Club inductee, Soldiers of Quarters, Year awarded

by Spc. Jennifer L. Sierra

Anaconda Times staff

LSA ANACONDA, Iraq — The Sgt. Audie Murphy Club (SAMC) inductees, and the Soldier and noncommissioned officer (NCO) of the quarter and year for Operation Iraqi Freedom 06-08 were formally announced during a ceremony held at the Sustainer Theater here July 27.

Staff Sgt. Brian A. Mooberry, maintenance platoon sergeant, G Company, 2nd Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment and Staff Sgt. Michael J. Griffin Jr., senior movement coordinator, 169th Cargo Transfer Company, 867th Corps Support Battalion are the newest members to be inducted into the Sgt. Audie Murphy Club (SAMC).

"Being chosen means this isn't a point in my career where I can just stop," said Griffin.

"I feel very proud. It's a good feeling of accomplishment and an opportunity to set a good example for my Soldiers," said Mooberry.

The Soldiers and NCOs of the quarter and year for the 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) are closely following in the footsteps of the SAMC inductees.

The Soldier and NCO of the third Quarter are Spc. Caleb VanVoorhis, B Company, 1st Battalion, 16th Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division and Sgt. Rochelli McKenzie, 289th Quartermaster Company, 15th Sustainment Brigade. Soldier and NCO of the fourth Quarter are Pfc. Xiao Y. Cao, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 82nd Sustainment Brigade and Sgt. Steven P. Morin, A Company, 15th Brigade Troops Battalion, 15th Sustainment Brigade.

VanVoorhis and Morin are this year's 13th SC(E) Soldier and NCO of the Year for OIF 06-08.

"I am honored to be the 13th SC(E) Soldier of the year and to be able to represent my unit. It is a great feeling," said VanVoorhis.

The official party of the ceremony consisted of Brig. Gen. Michael J. Terry, commander, 13th SC(E), Command Sgt. Maj. Marvin L. Hill, command sergeant major, Multi-National Force-Iraq, who served as the key note speaker, and Command Sgt. Maj. Terry Fountain, command sergeant major, 13th SC(E).

SAMC inductees were awarded the Army Commendation Medal and the SAMC membership medal, along with



Photo by Spc. Jennifer L. Sierra

Soldiers recognized as this year's SAMC inductees, Soldiers and NCOs of the third and fourth Quarter and Year had lunch with Command Sgt. Maj. Marvin L. Hill, command sergeant major, MNF-I and Command Sgt. Maj. Terry Fountain, command sergeant major, 13th SC(E).

military coins from Terry, Hill and Fountain. Soldiers and NCOs of the third and fourth quarter were awarded the Army Achievement Medal and were presented with military coins from Terry, Hill and Fountain.

"It feels great to be recognized by a general officer for this accomplishment," said Mooberry.

The Soldier and NCO of the Year were awarded the Army

Commendation Medal, were presented with military coins from Terry, Hill and Fountain, an engraved crystal plaque and also received several Gerber tools. All Soldiers received complimentary AAFES gift cards and AT&T Global calling cards.

"It means a lot to receive this honor in Iraq. It's much more difficult to prepare for a board in combat," said VanVoorhis.



Photos by Spc. Jennifer L. Sierra

(Above) Brig. Gen. Michael J. Terry, commander, 13th SC(E) pins the Army Achievement Medal on Sgt. Steven P. Morin, A Co., 15th BTB, 15th SB, who is this year's 13th SC(E) NCO of the Fourth Quarter and Year.

(Left) Command Sgt. Maj. Terry Fountain, command sergeant major, 13th SC(E), alongside Command Sgt. Maj. Marvin L. Hill, command sergeant major, MNF-I, presents Spc. Caleb VanVoorhis, B Co., 1-16th Infantry Regiment, 1st ID, with a plaque commemorating his achievements as this year's 13th SC(E) Soldier of the Third Quarter and Year.

Mass casualty exercise reveals v

by Sgt. Jasmine Chopra

Anaconda Times staff

LSA ANACONDA, Iraq — Army and Air Force first responders teamed up with their civilian counterparts during a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, explosive mass casualty exercise (CBRNE MASCAL) here July 24.

Planners took special steps to create as much realism as possible to include using a bus that was destroyed by a mortar. The action happened in real time, with real equipment and personnel.

Simulated victims were also used, giving first responders from multiple agencies a chance to test their response to a massive attack.

There are lots of issues to work out in any MASCAL but especially in a CBRNE MASCAL where first responders could get contaminated and become casualties themselves, said Maj. Bonnie Hartstein, 15th Sustainment Brigade surgeon. Hartstein, an emergency physician, served as an exercise evaluator.

The simulation began with an indirect fire attack on a bus accompanied by fire and a powerful, strange odor. Casualties included amputees and burn victims. All had skin and eye irritation and difficulty breathing.

The location of the attack was intentionally adjacent to a fuel farm, fuel bunker,

flight line, and main road to focus everyone involved on the additional safeguards required in such a hazardous environment, said Lt. Col. Edward Camacho, 657th Area Support Group anti-terrorism, force protection and safety officer in charge.

"It's very challenging to treat casualties who have chemical exposure because we must protect ourselves while treating life-threatening injuries. That's why training is so important. It gives us a chance to see what our strengths and weaknesses are," said Air Force Staff Sgt. Chris Smiley, a firefighter in the 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron.

Once appropriate steps were taken to protect themselves against exposure, first responders triaged, decontaminated, and provided aid to the casualties. The victims were later transported to the Sgt. Ivory Phipps Medical Clinic for further treatment.

The full-scale scenario involved three months of intensive cooperation with police, fire, medical, intelligence and security personnel.

"The planning and coordination (is) not easy, but there is no other alternative than to train as realistically as possible especially given the threat of a chemical attack," said Camacho.

Overall, the MASCAL is a great a way to identify capabilities and areas that need to be improved, he said.



A firefighter in the 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron decontaminates a simulated casualty during a CBRNE MASCAL exercise here July 24. The exercise challenged first responders to operate in a contaminated material environment under a simulated terrorist attack.



Photos by Sgt. Jasmine Chopra

(Above) Emergency physician Maj. Bonnie Hartstein, 15th Sustainment Brigade, evaluates how first responders in the 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron administer aid to a simulated casualty during a CBRNE MASCAL exercise. Treating casualties in a CBRNE environment requires additional precautions so first responders can avoid contamination and not become casualties themselves.

(Right) Firefighters in the 332nd Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron evacuate a simulated CBRNE casualty. The simulation began with an indirect fire attack on a passenger bus. Casualties included amputees and burn victims. All had skin and eye irritation and difficulty breathing.



Weaknesses, identifies strengths



Photo by Sgt. Jasmine Chopra

ates a simulated casualty during a CBRNE
o administer aid to victims in a hazardous



CSM Hill visits TF 2-82 Steel Dragons

by Sgt. 1st Class Neil K. Simmons

Anacanda Times staff

LSA ANACONDA, Iraq — Task Force 2-82 here received a visit July 27 from Multi-National Force-Iraq's (MNF-I) senior enlisted Soldier.

Command Sgt. Maj. Willie B. Jones, 2-82 command sergeant major, arranged for Command Sgt. Maj. Marvin L. Hill, MNF-I command sergeant major, to observe a typical day for the personnel of 2nd Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment. This is the second time Hill has visited the Steel Dragons.

"Sitting in the (distinguished visitors quarters) does nothing for Soldiers, nothing for MNF-I," said Hill. "So I got ahold of Sgt. Maj. Jones."

The first stop on Hill's visit was a briefing on the current activities in the Steel Dragon's area of responsibility. While also supporting reconstruction projects and medical care for local villages, the 2-82s primary mission is to keep the area surrounding LSA Anaconda secure.

"We use all the assets here to get the best effects," said Sgt. Maj. Thomas J. Boon, 2-82 operations noncommissioned officer in charge (NCOIC), in reference to countering indirect fire attacks. "Each strike this month we've recovered



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Neil K. Simmons

Command Sgt. Maj. Marvin L. Hill, Multi-National Force-Iraq command sergeant major, discusses ideas for improving the professional development of NCOs in Iraq with Soldiers of Task Force 2-82 Steel Dragons here July 27.

the mortar tube."

After watching video of an aerial strike on Anti-Iraqi Forces who had just launched a mortar attack, Hill loaded into an up-armored HMMWV

and moved to the south mortar pit here for a short tour and to thank the troops who manned the position for their effort.

"There is not a mission here that's unimportant, no group too small," Hill said. "Everybody here has an important role."

Following this, Hill went on a patrol with nearly 30 Soldiers from 2-82, to the village of Al

Jumia to deliver school supplies, cookies and shoes to the Iraqi children there. Hill noted the fact that the platoon leaders were all NCOs, a job traditionally filled by lieutenants.

"All NCOs run the patrols," said Jones.

"NCOs running things. No wonder I like coming here," Hill said. "We're doing right by our NCOs; getting them

close and keeping them close to the lines."

Once the supplies had been handed out, Hill moved through the village on foot, observing the projects the 2-82 has overseen. Once complete, Hill returned here.

"You all figured out just what I needed to see," Hill said. "I just want to tell you guys I appreciate it."



Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Neil K. Simmons

(Above) Children in the village of Al Jumia, Iraq cheer before receiving school supplies brought to them by Soldiers of Task Force 2-82 Steel Dragons July 27.

(Left) Command Sgt. Maj. Marvin L. Hill, Multi-National Force-Iraq command sergeant major, hands school supplies to an Iraqi girl in the village of Al Jumia, Iraq July 27.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Marikay Satryano

Pediatric Cardiologist Dr. Khaled Salaymeh performs a pre-surgical exam on Dalal, an 8-year-old from Iraq's Al Anbar Province, in Amman, Jordan, July 18, 2007. Doctor Salaymeh operated on Dalal July 23 to correct a life threatening congenital heart defect. (NOTE: Chest area on patient blurred in PhotoShop to protect her privacy)

Heart, from Page 6

assigned to the U.S. Embassy in Amman, Satryano created a program that matches charities and corporations to individual Iraqi children's cases.

Over the past two years, she has arranged for 61 children to receive lifesaving cardiac operations either in Amman or the United States.

In Dalal's case, she coordinated with the Environmental Chemical Corporation to arrange a free flight from Baghdad to Jordan.

She also scheduled everything with the hospital in Amman and the free services of a Jordanian dentist who provided some necessary pre-operation dental care.

"Helping Dalal has been a group effort," said Satryano. "Three organizations, Gift of Life New Jersey, Gift of Life International and Our Children International USA split the cost for Dalal's surgery. The International Organization of Migration Mission is also assisting by covering room and board for Dalal's father during their stay Jordan."

U.S. Special Operations Forces played a major role in ensuring Dalal and her father could make the trip to Jordan.

"We assisted them in getting the new Iraqi G-Series Passports to travel out of the country," said Murtaugh.

"Our special operations task unit coordinated a flight from their hometown to Al Asad and we worked with the Combined Joint Special Operations Air Command to fly them from Al Asad to Baghdad. Another team member and I escorted the family to Baghdad and we stayed with them until they departed to ensure there were no problems. Everyone was extremely helpful and provided us with excellent support throughout."

While they were waiting on passports to make the journey, Murtaugh regularly kept in contact with the family and even put together a slide show to bring Dalal's plight to the attention of folks back home.

Inspired by his dedication, friends, fam-

ily and fellow servicemembers took the initiative to contact Gift of Life International to make a donation in her name. "They are still receiving donations and at last count the total was over \$1,000," said Murtaugh. "I am very happy we were able to assist Dalal. She's a sweetheart and without our help I'm convinced her condition would be fatal."

"We appreciate that they (the Americans) care about us," Dalal's father (whose name was withheld to protect his identity) said through an interpreter. "I know you are here doing another job and I am thankful for all you do. This is an unforgettable thing what you are doing for my family and we cannot thank you enough for your help."

Now that Dalal starts the day with health and the promise of a future, she was asked what she wants to be when she grows up.

Without skipping a beat, her brown eyes warmly envision her future "A doctor! And I'd treat everyone for free."

"The child we can't help is the one we don't know about," said Satryano. "Typically, cases of humanitarian assistance go to the National Iraqi Assistance Center which is staffed by Iraqi citizens and Coalition Forces. Not all parents (such as in the case of Dalal) can easily gain access to Baghdad for such services, but there are many ways to still help them. It takes dedication, total teamwork, trust and faith, but together we can give more Iraqi children in need a chance at a healthy life."

For more information on humanitarian efforts aimed at assisting Iraqi children, contact the National Iraqi Assistance Center at www.natiac.org, Gift of Life International www.giftoflifeinternational.org, or Our Children International at www.ourchildreninternational.org.

Electronic training tool aids Soldiers in combat

by Spc. Courtney Marulli

2nd IBCT, 2nd Inf. Div.

FOB LOYALTY, Iraq — Training for combat is hard to simulate, due to its very nature. One never knows what will be around the corner or down the alley when out on the streets of Baghdad.

With the aid of modified real weapons, electronics and scenarios built from experience, Soldiers can get the feel for combat from the safety of their base using a computer-based, scenario-building system.

The Engagement Skills Trainer 2000, is a computer operating system which uses real weapons modified to fire "electronic" versus real bullets. A large movie screen displays a number of real-world scenarios and the system records where Soldiers were firing and how many targets they hit and miss.

July 1 was when the system opened for unit use and several groups have come through, said Louis H. Lee Jr., the EST 2000 Training Facilitator.

Lee, a native of Waynesville, Mo., and a retired first sergeant, was in the military for 25 years and has 30 years experience on the weapons systems. He also learns new tactics from Soldiers that come through and passes that knowledge on to other groups so everyone learns to look at things from more than one angle.

"I had 14 or 15 teams come through and all but one found it a great advantage," he said.

Weapons available for simulation use on the system include Mk-19 rifle, M-4 rifle, .50-caliber machine gun, M249 squad automatic weapon, 240B crew serve weapon, M203 grenade launcher, M-9 pistols, AT-4 anti-tank weapon and M16A4 rifles.

Each weapon's firing piece was replaced with electronics to simulate shooting and the recoil. Lee said those he has worked with say the system is great at reproducing the effect of firing a weapon.

Lee said the system can create almost any scenario a team wants to practice without having to risk their lives or cost their unit ammuni-

tion.

"So far, all the Soldiers and teams who have come through have said it helped them," he said.

The EST 2000 isn't just for those in combat arms positions. It is also a great learning tool for support military occupations that only go outside the wire on occasion, for those who don't fire their weapon regularly and also for those who want practice before they go to a range to qualify.

Aside from scenarios, the system can also set up for Basic Rifle Marksmanship to enable Soldiers practice at hitting targets.

"It doesn't cost what it costs sending rounds down range," Lee said.

Lee said combat support Soldiers who used the system before going to a range noticed a major improvement in their firing ability.

There are two other modes of the EST 2000 to include collective training, which focuses on team commands; and also shoot and no-shoot scenarios that let Soldiers practice their escalation of force tactics and rules of engagement.

It's also a great training aid for units that receive a new Soldier and want to let that Soldier see what it's like out on the streets of Iraq. Lee said that Soldier can be told what to expect, but he can come in and see for himself and practice his reflexive fire without putting himself or anyone else in danger.

Pfc. Danny M. Bauer, an EOD team member and a native of Rochester, Minn., said he thought the training was helpful, especially when he was using the .50-caliber machine gun because the EOD team recently had crew-served weapons attached to their vehicles.

"It'll definitely make it a lot easier than it was," he said.

Since arriving in country, Bauer said he hasn't shot any weapons, so it's nice to come to this training simulator and be able to get practice in and stay sharp on his shooting skills.

"It's always nice to practice," he said. "You can never get enough practice on that. It's a lot better to practice in here before seeing the real thing and doing something wrong."

Iraqi Security Forces, U.S. Special Forces Detain al Qaeda Cell Leader in Husaybuh

Courtesy story

CJSOTF-AP

FALLUJAH, Iraq — Iraqi Security Forces teams conducted a series of raids, July 29 detaining a suspected al Qaeda cell leader responsible for attacks and facilitating foreign fighters in the Al Qaim area.

With U.S. Special Forces present as advisers, Iraqi police detained two primary suspects and three additional persons of interest in the vicinity of Husaybuh, located on the Euphrates River west of Al Qaim. Various documents, in-

cluding multiple identification cards and passports, were also seized during the operation.

The cell leader, who allegedly runs al Qaeda in Iraq activities in Husaybuh, is purportedly involved in the planning of future large scale attacks against Coalition Forces in the western Euphrates River valley.

The second primary suspect is a school teacher believed to be spreading propaganda and recruiting his students to kill members of the Iraqi Police and Army.

No Iraqi or Coalition Forces were injured during this operation.



Navy photo by Mass Communications Specialist 2nd Class Brett Cote

Iraqi soldiers from 4th Division Iraq Army learn room and building clearing tactics. The group is involved in a two-week training camp led by U.S. Special Forces. The two weeks of training begins with U.S. Special Forces leading the instruction, but over the two weeks, the course evolves into an Iraqi-led training environment.

“What is your goal for this deployment?”



Spc. Timothy Jarosz
316th ESC HHC

“To use the Army’s educational resources to better myself.”



Sgt. Mindi Schlimm
316th ESC SJA

“To better myself as a person and as a Soldier.”



Spc. Jose Nieves
316th ESC SPO

“To do my job to the best of my ability to get our missions done right.”

On the street with Spc. Jason Venturini

Ryan Klotz

I miss and love you more than anyone could ever imagine and I'm counting down the days until you are back home!!
Love forever and always,
Your loving wife, Missy

Gregory A. Kerns

Happy Birthday! We love you and miss you. Keep your head up and wake up before you fall out of bed, LOL. All my heart and soul is waiting for you to return to me. Stay safe and alert.
Love you, KIM and the Boys

412th ASB Professionals

We want you to know how proud we are of you. You are missed. Take care and be safe. 412th ASB Battalion

Roel Luna

HAPPY BIRTHDAY! We all love you and miss you so very much. We are thinking of you on this special day and count the minutes until we can be

together again. Words cannot describe the pride we feel for having someone as unselfish as you defending the rights we sometimes take for granted. May God continue to watch over you and guide you with His light and we will have the most incredible celebration when at last we hold you in our arms. Happy Birthday and Love Forevermore, Lisa, Josh, Sara, Jonathan and Gabby

Christopher Lee Confer

I love you and miss you so much! You are always on my mind and in my prayers! Please take care of yourself and drink LOTS of H2O! Never forget about me; "Your bottle of water at the end of the finish line". I am waiting for you always- just come home when you come home. And never doubt for one second how great of a man and husband you are!!!

uoyekili ~ uoyevoli Love,
Your Wifey; Vanessa Confer

W. Whitman

Perhaps friendship, loyal and true, is the greatest gift any one person could offer to another. You, W.W, have given me so much more. Even miles apart, I can still feel your love guarding over me like a faithful watchdog. I will wait for you, no matter how long you are gone. Concern yourself only with the missions you must accomplish, knowing that when you return, you are welcomed, you are wanted, and you are loved.
Peace, April

Cody Vest

Happy Birthday! I wish we could celebrate together but you are in our prayers and we are so proud of you!
Love, Jennifer, Emily,

Benjamin, and Baby #3

Javier Torres

Amor, I miss you so much. We love you and God bless you!
Your wife, Jennifer Torres.

Beverley Craft

I'm keeping you in my prayers and sending lots of love and kisses!
Sherry T. Holla Back!

Hey there you **SKILLFUL Blue Stars!** I want you all to know you are in my prayers. It is awful boring around here with out you. I especially miss the tall, dark, handsome Blue Star known as Mr. Mitchell ~ Mr. Mitchell's Wife

Kenneth D. Horst

Your family loves you, and misses you very much! We are proud of you!
Love, Kathy,John,Josh,Kelli, Rebecca & McKenna

Mike Harmison

Ich vermisse Dich ganz schrecklich, ohne Dich ist der Sommer kein Sommer, denn nur mit Dir macht das Leben wirklich Spass! Ich liebe Dich so sehr!
Deine Andrea

Michael Esenwein

We love and miss you! I can't wait to see you! Come home safe, sweetie!
Xs&Os, Alicia Esenwein

Tony Wirth

Happy Birthday, Tony "That Dog Don't Hunt" Wirth, from your friends in the DMC.

Ricky Williams

I love you and miss you so much. I can't wait for you to come home.
Forever yours, Angel

Jeffery smith

We are praying for you. Come home soon.
We love you,
Nicole Smith and son



SUSTAINER REEL TIME THEATER

(Schedule is subject to change)

Wednesday, August 8	
5 p.m.	Pirates of Caribbean (PG)
8 p.m.	Mr. Brooks (R)
Thursday, August 9	
5 p.m.	Simpsons Movie (PG-13)
8 p.m.	Gracie (PG-13)
Friday, August 10	
2 p.m.	Waitress (PG-13)
5 p.m.	Surf's Up (PG)
8:30 p.m.	Bourne Ultimatum (PG-13)
Saturday, August 11	
2 p.m.	Mr. Brooks (R)
5 p.m.	Bourne Ultimatum (PG-13)
8 p.m.	Waitress (PG-13)
Sunday, August 12	
2 p.m.	Bourne Ultimatum (PG-13)
5 p.m.	Gracie (PG-13)
8 p.m.	Surf's Up (PG)
Monday, August 13	
5 p.m.	Bourne Ultimatum (PG-13)
8 p.m.	Pirate of Caribbean (PG)
Tuesday, August 14	
5 p.m.	Gracie (PG-13)
8 p.m.	Bourne Ultimatum (PG-13)

http://jennyspouse.com

Jenny, the Military Spouse

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http://www.pvtmurphy.com

Pvt. Murphy's Law

Spc. Brian Wilson, 206th ASMC

Back of the Formation

August 8

ANACONDA ACTIVITIES

Your one-stop connection to activities around LSA Anaconda
to add your activity to the event calendar, email anaconda.times@iraq.centcom.mil

Spades & Ping Pong
2 a.m., 2p.m. and 8 p.m., H6
MWR

9-Ball Tourney
3 p.m. and 8 p.m.,
East MWR

Step Aerobics
5:30 p.m., East Fitness Center

Aerobics
7 p.m., West MWR

Green Bean Karaoke
8 p.m., West MWR

8-Ball Tourney
8 p.m., West MWR

Floor Hockey
8 to 10 p.m., MWR Circuit
Gym

R&B Music
8:30 p.m., H-6 MWR

Salsa Dance Class
8:30 p.m., West MWR

Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu
9 p.m., East Fitness Center

August 9

Tae Kwon Do
Midnight, East Fitness Center

9-Ball and Dominoes Tourney
2 a.m., 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., H6
MWR

Intermediate Swim Lessons
6 p.m., Indoor Pool

Soccer and Tennis
7 p.m., West Fitness Center

Country/Western Dance Class
7 p.m., East MWR

Pilates
7:30 p.m., West Fitness
Center

Water Aerobics
7:45 p.m., Indoor Pool

Console Game Tourney
8 p.m., West MWR

Dodgeball League
8 p.m., Circuit Gym

Combatives Training

8:30 p.m., East Fitness Center

Karaoke Night
8:30 p.m., H6 MWR

Tejano Dance Class
8:30 p.m., West MWR

August 10

Texas Hold'em
2 a.m., 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.,
H-6 MWR

Aerobics
5:30 p.m., East Fitness
Center

Country Night
8:30 p.m., H-6 MWR

Open Volleyball
7 p.m., West Fitness Center

Friday Night Spikes
7 p.m., East Fitness Center

Hip-Hop Dance Class
7 p.m., East MWR

Gaston's Self Defense
7:30 p.m., West Fitness
Center

Hip-Hop Coffee Shop
8 p.m., West MWR

Scrabble Tourney
8 p.m., West MWR

Chess, Spades and
Dominoes
8 p.m., West MWR

Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu
9 p.m., East Fitness Center

R&B Music Night
9:30 p.m., H6 MWR

August 11

Pilates
11 a.m., West Fitness
Center

Boxing
3 to 4:30 p.m., West Fitness
Center

Basketball Tourney
7 p.m., MWR Circuit Gym

Aerobics
7 p.m., West MWR

Salsa Dance Class
7 p.m., East MWR

Tae Kwon Do
7 p.m., East Fitness Center

Screaming Eagle Poker
7:30 p.m., East MWR

Country/Western Dance Class
8 p.m., West MWR

Texas Hold'em
8 p.m., West MWR

August 12

Darts and Foosball
8:30 a.m. and 8:30 p.m., H-6
MWR

Capoiera
12 p.m., East Fitness Center

Ryu Ryu
2 p.m., East Fitness Center

Aerobics
7 p.m., West Fitness Center

Poker
7 p.m., East MWR

Poetry Night
7 p.m., East MWR

Gaston's Self Defense
7:30 p.m., West Fitness Center

Swing Dance (Advanced)
8 p.m., East Fitness Center
(Aerobics Room)

Green Bean Karaoke
8 p.m., West MWR

Spades, Dominoes & R&B
8 p.m., West MWR

Abs Salute
8 p.m., H6 Fitness Center

Salsa Dance Class
8:30 p.m., H6 Recreation

August 13

Texas Hold'em
2 a.m., 2 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.

H6 MWR

Tae Kwon Do
Midnight, East Fitness Center

Spin Class
3:30 p.m., H6 Fitness Center

Step Aerobics
5:30 p.m., East Fitness Center

Aerobics
7 p.m., West MWR

Boxing
7:30 to 9 p.m., East Fitness
Center

9-Ball Tourney
8 p.m., West MWR

Karaoke
8 p.m., East MWR

Poetry Jam
8 p.m., West MWR

Floor Hockey
8 p.m., MWR Circuit Gym

Brazilian Jiu-Jutsi
9 p.m., East Fitness Center

August 14

8-Ball Tourney
2 a.m., 2 p.m. and 8:30 p.m.
H6 MWR

Kung Fu
7 p.m., H6 Fitness Center

Tae Kwon Do
7p.m., East Fitness Center

Pilates
7:30 p.m., West Fitness Center

Swing Dance (Basic)
8 p.m., East Recreation Center

Foosball/Ping Pong
8 p.m., West MWR

Combative Training
8:30 p.m., East Fitness Center

Balad Idol
8:30 p.m., H-6 MWR

August 15

Spades & Ping Pong
2 a.m., 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., H6
MWR

Dance Aerobics
5:30 a.m., East Fitness Center

9-Ball Tourney
3 p.m. and 8 p.m.,
East MWR

Spin Class
3:30 p.m., H6 Fitness Center

Aikido
5-7 p.m., East Fitness Center

Step Aerobics
5:30 p.m., East Fitness Center

Open Volleyball
7 p.m., East Fitness Center

Aerobics
7 p.m., West MWR

Green Bean Karaoke
8 p.m., West MWR

Cardio Funk
8 p.m., H6 Fitness Center

8-Ball Tourney
8 p.m., West MWR

Floor Hockey
8 p.m., MWR Circuit Gym

Salsa Dance Class
8:30 p.m., West MWR

Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu
9 p.m., East Fitness Center

Did we forget a class?

If you don't see your
favorite MWR class
or activity here, let us
know.

E-mail us:

[anaconda.times@iraq.
centcom.mil](mailto:anaconda.times@iraq.centcom.mil)



Do you have a story idea?

Contact the Anaconda Times
anaconda.times@iraq.centcom.mil

Competitors participate in July biathlon



Photo by Spc. Jennifer L. Sierra

Competitors in the July biathlon prepare to complete nine laps in the indoor pool here as part of the competition prior to the five-kilometer run July 29.



Courtesy photo by Marian Poindexter

Maj. Kristain Dugger, optometry doctor, 296th Area Support Medical Company, runs the five-kilometer portion of the biathlon held here July 29.



Photo by Spc. Jennifer L. Sierra

(Above) Biathlon competitor, Zachary Mau, takes a breath between strokes during the swimming portion of the biathlon held here July 29.
(Below) David Rojas reaches for the edge of the indoor pool as he prepares to begin the final lap in the swimming portion of the biathlon held here July 29.



Comedy night at Anaconda



Photos by Sgt. Jasmine Chopra

(Top) Servicemembers laugh so hard it hurts during a stand-up comedy performance by Dave Attell and Scott Kennedy, July 27. Both comedians have traveled to combat zones several times entertaining troops far from home.

(Above) Comedian Dave Attell signed autographs and posed for pictures with Soldiers after performing stand-up comedy at the Sustainer Theater at Logistical Support Area Anaconda. Attell is best-known for "Insomniac," a show on Comedy Central and his numerous appearances on late-night talk shows.

(Right) Comedian Dave Attell got up close and personal with troops during a performance. He and fellow comedian Scott Kennedy performed for a full house.