

Capt. Lester McCants Plays Big Role As Morale Builder



CAPT. McCANTS

FORT BRAGG — Probably no other individual at Fort Bragg is more aware of the vital role played by good entertainment in the upkeep and maintenance of a high standard of morale among troops than Captain Lester McCants, post athletic officer. Since taking over this assignment some three months ago, he has found it interesting, exciting and at times "tough." Yet, despite all would-be obstacles, Captain McCants has given an outstanding service in planning and making available a variety of sports activities and entertainment for Fort Bragg's military personnel.

Athletic programs planned by Captain McCants and his staff have been broad and well designed to include all personnel. These programs include baseball, softball, boxing, football, horseshoe-pitching, rifle matches, badminton and scores of other sports activities of interest to military personnel.

A devout sports enthusiast, Captain McCants is well qualified for

his assignment. He holds a keen interest in all sports and a wealth of knowledge and experience in many. His favorites however, are boxing, track, football, baseball and basketball.

When not engaged in the performance of his duties or conducting or witnessing some sports event, Captain McCants turns his attention to one of his favorite hobbies, flying, photography or radio.

A native of Melrose Park, Ill., Captain McCants entered the Army on January 8, 1941, at Fort Custer, Mich. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant on July 1, 1941. During World War II he served in Italy where he participated in the Rome-Arno, Po River Valley and North Apennines campaigns. Upon the cessation of hostilities in Europe, he served in Germany with the occupation forces from 1946 to 1949.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. R. McCants of 820 South 13th Avenue, Maywood, Illinois.

505th Nips 325th To Keep Unblemished Card

FORT BRAGG — The undefeated 505th Airborne Infantry Panthers roared back from a 7 to 6 deficit at halftime to hang a 39 to 14 defeat on the Falcons from the 325th Airborne Infantry. The Panthers seemed to gain their second wind in the third period and, doing nothing wrong, started rolling to the score.

At the beginning of the game it appeared that the Falcons were going to be the winners, and pull the biggest upset of the season. Two drives and a tumble put them in sight of the Panther goal line but three times the staunch 505th line held them for downs inside the twenty yard line.

The Panthers drew first blood, taking the ball on their own 16, after holding the Falcons for downs, they started for a touchdown. In five plays they were in pay dirt. Bill Carter made six yards on the first play. Walter Vanney hit Julian Hunter, big Panther left end, with a pass that was good to the 39 yard line. Then Carter took another pass from Vanney on the 50 and raced to the Falcon 32 before he was hauled down. On the next play Vanney raced toward right end on a fake pass play and jumped to Hunter who was standing all alone in the end zone. Vanney's attempted kick for the extra point was blocked.

On the next exchange of plays the Falcons scored their first

touchdown. Failing to gain the Falcon quarterback, Billy Easley, kicked to the Panther 20 yard line where Fred Bell fumbled. It was recovered by the Falcons on the 19. The Falcons drove to the six yard line but were unable to make it to the end-zone and the ball went over on downs. On the first play Bill Wallace, Falcon halfback, intercepted Vanney's pass on the 12 yard line. Wallace then drove off right tackle all the way to the one foot line before he was hauled down. Two plays later Easley went over for the Touchdown. Donald Toth kicked the extra point.

The remainder of the half was mainly a kicking duel between Easley and Vanney. Neither team could penetrate to midfield as the kicks kept booming out around the coffin corner.

The Panthers scored quickly in the second half. Bill Hoffman kicked over the goal line to open the period and it was the Falcons ball on their own 20 yard line. Three plays later the Falcon had lost seven yards. Garnett Arnold Panther left tackle broke through to block Easley's kick and recovered it in the end zone. Hoffman converted and the Panthers went ahead 13 to 7.

The Falcons were unable to gain on the next series and were forced to kick. Easley kicked one that was taken by Bell on his own 13 and returned to the 31 yard line. Without losing the ball the Panth-

BOWLING BEGINS AT POST BOWLING ALLEY

FORT BRAGG — The 1950-51 Bowling season scheduled to run for twenty consecutive weeks got underway at the Post Bowling Alley last week. Schedules have been released by Special Services officials and distributed throughout the post.

The twenty-week campaign is divided into two groups. These have been appropriately designated as the American and National Leagues.

Units composing the American League are the 14th Quartermaster Battalion, 29th Ordnance Battalion, Headquarters and Service Companies of the 109th Engineer Battalion, 525th Military Intelligence Service Company, Physical Training School Headquarters Company, 9th Air Force, 95th Transportation Car Company, the First, Second and Third Battalions of the 504th Airborne Infantry Regiment, Second Battalion, 505th Airborne Infantry Regiment, 376th Field Artillery Battalion, 44th Tank Battalion, 82nd Division MP Company, 503rd MP Battalion, 361 MP Company and the 54th Field Artillery Battalion.

The National League is composed of the 285th Ordnance H. A. M. Company, 332nd Signal Battalion, Companies A and C of the 109th Engineer Battalion, 309th Field Hospital, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, V Corps, 112th Artillery Group, Station Hospital, 325th AIR, Second Battalion, 504th AIR, the First and Third Battalions of the 505th AIR, 319th Field Artillery Battalion, 98th Field Artillery Battalion, Special Troops, 82nd Airborne Division, 142nd Field Artillery Group and the 756th Field Artillery.

Competition in each league is open to all officers and enlisted personnel stationed at Fort Bragg. Teams are composed of eight players, including three alternates.

All matches are scheduled to start at 8 p. m. and will be played on Tuesday and Thursday nights of each week.

ers drove to another touchdown. Running plays gained all the yardage in this 69 yard drive, featuring runs of 15 yards by Vanney, Bell, and May. Melvin Boykin went over from the one foot line. Hoffman was wide with the kick.

This was followed quickly by another score while the Falcons were still off balance. The Panthers held the 325th for no gain on the 20 yard line in Falcon territory. Easley's kick was partially blocked and went only to the 40 yard line. There it was picked up by Bell and returned to the 32. Lester Powell took a hand off through left tackle for 17 yards. On the next play, a pitch-out, Boykin went over for the score. Hoffman's kick was good.

The Falcons regained their balance and in a sustained drive went all the way to the Panthers four yard line before the 505th line stiffened and held for downs. The Falcons had the Panthers inside their 20 and forced Vanney to kick. The kick was downed on the Falcons 30. Here they started the drive that scored their second touchdown. The score came on a pass Easley to Charles Baker. Toth converted again.

The last two touchdowns came as a direct result of some beautiful broken field running by Bell and Carter. Bell took the next kick-off on his own 10 and returned to the Falcon 10 before being stopped. Two plays later he was over. The final TD came when Carter took a handoff, sliced off right tackle, cut back and raced across. A run of 38 yards.

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505th Combat Team To Stage Airborne Assault Demonstration

FORT BRAGG — On Tuesday, November 23, the 3rd battalion combat team of the 505th will stage a battalion airborne assault demonstration on drop zone Sicily for the students of the Armed Forces Staff College.

The purpose of the demonstration is to show the Armed Forces Staff College students the capability of Airborne Assault Operation and the problems faced by the individual airborne soldier. The drop and assault will be made by an approximated 700 men, consisting of the Third Battalion of infantry, plus battery A of the 456th Air PA Battalion and a platoon of engineers from the 307th Airborne Engineer Battalion.

Prior to the drop demonstration of heavy weapons firing will take place in the Latham impact area adjoining the D. Z. Sicily South. The weapons squads and sections will lay down a barrage of weapons firing on a simulated enemy to show the A. F. S. C. students the effectiveness of the weapons available to the airborne infantry battalion.

Air support for the battalion will be furnished by a group of jet fighters from Shaw Air Force Base, South Carolina, and they will be controlled by the battalion commander, Lt. Col. Joseph R. Russ. The jets will drop bombs, launch rockets, and start targets in the impact area to illustrate to the students the part played by jets in an airborne assault.

Tactical conditions will prevail throughout the assault phase of the demonstration that the observers may see the strict order and concealment discipline exerted by the airborne infantry battalion in assault.

The schedule of the demonstration provides the visiting students of the Armed Forces College with a well rounded knowledge of the tactics used by the Airborne troops in assault. It will also give them an idea of the extensive training the men of the 505th have been taking. That the term "ready used by our regiment in World War II" still applies will be proved by this demonstration.

82nd Airborne Division Boxers Rack Up Wins

FORT BRAGG — The winter boxing season opened Thursday night, 9 November, at Fort Bragg when 14 bouts were fought in the Tournament of Champions at the Post Field House. In the 14 bouts there were three KOs and three TKOs.

The first knockout came in the lightweight class when Willie Hunter of the 505th Airborne Infantry scored in 2:15 of the first round over Albert Skiffin of the 756th Field Artillery. In the next fight Robert Prock of the 504th Airborne Infantry knocked out Herman Conn of the 505th in 28 seconds of the third round. The third KO came in the final bout of the evening when William Connerton of the 504th Joseph Davis met in the feature welterweight bout of the evening. Davis put Connerton on the canvas in 2:40 of the 5th round.

The TKOs were scored by Jack Burlison 504th over Lucious Pierce

Byweights in 2:53 of the second, Wilson Tomika 504th over Richard Schenz, Divarty, lightweights, in 2:44 of the first, and when the Second for Harvey Harris stepped in the ring to stop the fight in the first round of his tussle with Roscoe Elliott.

The other bouts that were on decision are: Ernest Vasquez 504th over Clarke Bester 505th bantamweight, Leon Upshur 505th over John Doleman 504th welterweight, Arnold Coy Special Troops over Robert Campbell 325th middleweight, Antonio Negro Special Troops over Robert Campbell 325th middleweight, Antonio Negro Special Troops over James Thompson 325th middleweight, Ralph Duran 505th over Thomas Gillam Special Troops Middleweight, Neck Vasquez 504th over John Hitcher Divarty heavyweight, and Manuel Butaza 325th over Arnono Montevrde 504th lightweight.

Toyland At Theater 7 Attracts Huge Crowds

FORT BRAGG — Since its opening on October 18, "Toyland" located in the spacious auditorium of theater No. 7 opposite the Main Post Exchange, replete with a wide variety of toys, has been the busy scene of gigantic crowds of early Christmas shoppers. Bright-eyed youngsters, beaming with the spirit of the rapidly approaching Yuletide season are on hand too, in sizeable numbers. Its a daily routine, for old and young alike.

This year marks the first time Toyland has operated separately from the Main Post Exchange. According to post exchange officials, the activity was moved to its new location in order to secure more space, thereby making it possible to have on hand a greater supply and variety of toys.

Toyland is presently opened from 4 until 9 p. m. on Monday, Tuesday,

Thursday and Friday and from 1 until 9 p. m. on Wednesday and Saturday. After the 24th of this month it will be opened Sundays from 1 until 9 p. m.

New assortments of all types of toys designed for children of all ages are on display. The completeness of the stock of merchandise found in the new store is revealed in the tricycle department. Here, they range from little "trikes" for beginners to the fancy cowboy and fire-engine tricycles for older children. Also available is the new "training bike" for children between the bicycle and tricycle age. All departments are similarly stocked with an attractive array of toys, which makes this year's toyland display one of the most complete ever witnessed by Fort Bragg shoppers.

Pfc. Conner Gets 825

FORT BRAGG — Pfc. Jessie Conner, a member of Headquarters Detachment No. 2 of the 3426th ASU credited himself with a total of 825 points in successfully completing the prescribed course of study at the Cooks and Bakers school here last week. The course covered a period of eight weeks, four of which were given over to theory and four to practical instructions on the preparation of foods and the use and nomenclature of field rations.

Attracting Pfc. Conner has held a keen interest in cooking since early childhood, only twenty-one months of his nine years service have been allotted to this work. "I've been cooking for some time," although this is the first time I've had any formal training

in it," he said. "I feel that this training will not only increase my efficiency but will better prepare me for the various tests for promotions in this work," the continued.

Prior to entering the Army Pfc. Conner worked as a dining room waiter in New York City. Desirous of becoming a member of the kitchen staff, he spent a considerable amount of his time here when not serving customers. Upon entering the Army on June 17, 1941; he felt sure that his wish would become a reality. Instead, he became a truck driver with the 883rd Gas Supply Company, with which he served in England and France from 1944 to 1946.

He came to Fort Bragg during the fall of 1946.