

# The **DEADEYE** Times

Online at [www.96thsbde.com](http://www.96thsbde.com)

Official Newsletter of the 96th Sustainment Brigade • September 2009



**FORT HOOD:**  
***Thanks for the Memories***





## From the Commander's Desk

By: Col. C.J. Read

Today, as I write this, it is the eighth anniversary of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001. Let us not forget the ultimate price paid by so many on that day, as well as the Soldiers who have given their lives fighting the War on Terror. The war continues on many fronts. It is the sacrifice of you and your families that forms and maintains what this great nation represents.

The 96th Sustainment Brigade has come a long way since its activation a year ago, and we now have a functional brigade with over 320 Soldiers, representing 38 states. We have gone through many training and validation events together, from the various Regional Training Centers, to Mobilization Training, to our final Mission Readiness Exercise at Fort Hood, Texas. The 96th SBDE has shown that it is prepared and ready to perform its wartime mission.

In a few short days, we will be in the Middle East. We will spend several weeks in Kuwait conducting final training. Then we will move to Taji, Iraq, where we will take over the mission of withdrawing personnel and equipment. This is a historic time for the 96th, as we will be the last sustainment brigade to perform this mission on Camp Taji before turning the camp back over to the Iraqis.

I challenge each of you to set goals for yourself during the deployment. My goal is to not only bring each of you home safely, but to bring you back mentally, physically, and spiritually stronger as well. Thanks for all you do.



The 96th Sustainment Brigade has come a long way since we first came together at Fort Hood, and now we're finally in the Middle East. The biggest thing we have to look forward to over the next few weeks is going up to Iraq and doing the transition with the 10th Sustainment Brigade, who we'll be replacing. We need to work hard to learn the processes that have been working for them so we can continue to provide the same level of support and prepare for the drawdown mission that we'll be inheriting.

I expect that once we get on the planes to Iraq, our lives are going to get very fast-paced. We're going to basically have a day to get our bearings, and then we start working with our counterparts. We'll have a week of them training us on what they've been doing. Then we'll have a week of being in the driver's seat with them providing oversight. Shortly thereafter, it's our show.

Stay focused, and listen to what your counterparts from the 10th tell you. They have the real-world experience right now. A lot of us have been deployed before, and we want to rely on how we did things back when we were deployed the last time. We need to listen to the unit that's been doing it for this past year because their experience is more relevant now.

We're going to have a unique place in history, because when we leave, we're sending the message that the Iraqi people are ready to take over. I think we have phenomenal NCOs and officers that are more than capable of completing the mission. We're going to do a great job.

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### 96th Sustainment Brigade,

Commander: Col. C.J. Read

Command Sergeant Major: Comm. Sgt. Maj. Vicki Briggs

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### On the Cover:

Members of the Personal Security Detail conduct a road match at North Fort Hood. Photo by Capt. Anthony John

### On the Back Cover:

Sun rises over the barracks of the 96th Sustainment Brigade. Photo by Capt. Anthony John

# The 96th Sustainment Brigade "Deadeye" Lineage

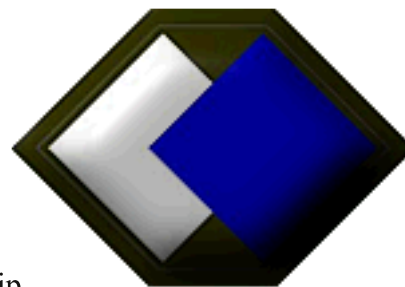
The 96th Sustainment Brigade traces its history back to World War I, and the creation of the 96th Infantry Division. The 96th was organized in October of 1918 and trained at Camp Wadsworth, South Carolina, but was deactivated in 1919 following the end of hostilities.

The 96th Infantry Division would play a much more active role in World War II. Nicknamed "the Deadeyes" due to Division Commander Maj. Gen. James L. Bradley's emphasis on marksmanship training, the 96th was activated in July 1942. After undergoing amphibious and jungle training on the Hawaiian Islands, the 96th helped liberate Leyte Island in the Philippines.

After three months of training and providing security, the Deadeyes invaded Okinawa on April 1, 1945. They penetrated the enemy outpost line between the 5th and 29th of April, and broke the main enemy defensive position between the 11th and 20th of May. The Deadeyes suffered over 7,200 casualties on Okinawa due to the fierce combat. The 96th Infantry Division was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation on January 10, 2001.

In 1996, the 96th Infantry Division was reorganized into the 96th Regional Readiness Command, where it maintained control over Army Reserve units in Utah, Colorado, Montana, Wyoming, and North and South Dakota. Units from the 96th RRC or its predecessors were deployed to Vietnam (1968-9), Germany and the Persian Gulf (1990-1) and the Balkan peacekeeping operations of the 1990s. Following September 11, 2001 over 5,000 Soldiers of the 96th RRC have deployed in support of Operations Noble Eagle, Enduring Freedom, and Iraqi Freedom.

On September 17, 2008, the 96th RRC became known as the 96th Sustainment Brigade, headquartered on Fort Douglas, UT.



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## Safety:

By: LTC Adamson

Heat is killing soldiers all over the world right now. Be sure to hydrate and rest in the shade as needed according to the 'wetbulb' index. Here is a recent report from South Carolina:

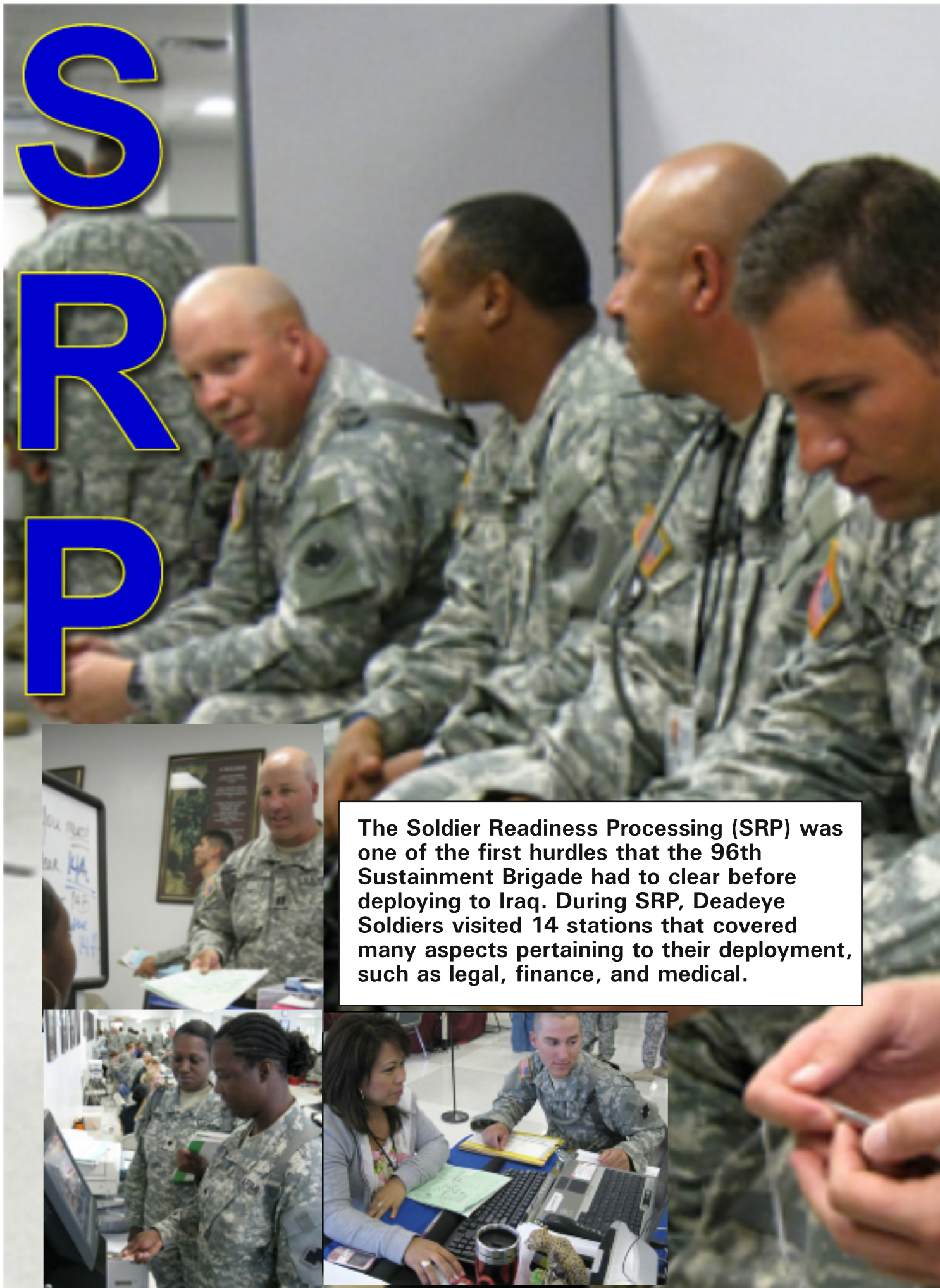
### HEAT INJURY CLAIMS ONE SOLDIER'S LIFE

A 61st Infantry Regiment, Fort Jackson, South Carolina, Soldier died on 20 August 2009 after sustaining a heat injury that occurred on 18 August 2009 at approximately 2100 local at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. The 18-year-old PVT fell out of a road march and was evacuated to a local medical center where he later died. The Soldier had not been deployed.

Including this accident, there have been 5 Class A Personnel Injury accidents resulting in a Soldier fatality due to Heat Injury since the beginning of FY07 through 20 August 2009. This PLR does not identify specific root causes of this incident, as the investigation is ongoing.

Our brigade depends on you to think safety throughout this deployment. If you notice any unsafe condition or hear of an accident or injury, notify LTC Adamson at 801-473-6539 or (david.j.adamson@us.army.mil )





**The Soldier Readiness Processing (SRP) was one of the first hurdles that the 96th Sustainment Brigade had to clear before deploying to Iraq. During SRP, Deadeye Soldiers visited 14 stations that covered many aspects pertaining to their deployment, such as legal, finance, and medical.**





# LRC

**The Leadership Reaction Course (LRC) at Fort Hood gave Deadeye Soldiers the opportunity to build teamwork while working on their leadership skills. Teams were given 30 minutes to negotiate an obstacle using limited resources, which often ended with a trip into murky water.**







# Deadeye Soldiers become combat lifesavers

Story & photos by: Cpl. Richmond Barkemeyer

It's mid-morning, and the sound of gunfire is echoing in the air. A group of Soldiers hurriedly rushes under the blazing sun to treat the victim of an improvised explosive device blast. When they reach the casualty, the group splits. One section takes up a defensive position, while the other starts to treat the victim's wounds. Their calm, measured actions stand in contrast to the chaos that is erupting around them as they methodically care for their victim.

While this scene could be taking place in Iraq or Afghanistan, the Soldiers in question are members of the 96th Sustainment Brigade, and students in the Combat Lifesaver (CLS) course at North Fort Hood. CLS is a 40-hour course designed to teach Soldiers the basics in battlefield medical treatment. 32 Soldiers from the 96th recently completed the course, including Sgt. Wade Burkman, a member of the SLCR team from Pocatello, ID. Burkman, who was previously a combat medic for 16 years, commented on the quality of the course taught at Fort Hood.

"It was kind of like medic school," he said. "It was an intense learning environment."



**Staff Sgt. Jonathan Barrier, an intelligence analyst checks the flow of his IV during the Combat Lifesaver course**



**Sgt. Tige Fleming (left) and team hurry to evacuate a casualty during the final exercise of the Combat Lifesaver course**

Much of the course's intensity came from the hands-on lessons. While the students inserted nasal breathing tubes and IVs into practice dummies, they also got to try their hand at treating their fellow Soldiers. Some were especially apprehensive about the IV stick. "I was a little nervous about doing it to a real person. I'm not too excited about needles," said Sgt. Tige Fleming, a member of the SLCR team from Logan, UT. "But I got it on the first try."

For many, the highlight of the course was the final exercise, where students applied everything they learned while under simulated battlefield conditions. Wearing their full battle gear and carrying weapons, the students ran through a complicated lane containing physical obstacles and a mounting casualty list.

"The lanes let us put a lot of the classroom teaching into a practical exercise, and it taught us to move as a unit," said Staff Sgt. Jonathan Barrier, an intelligence analyst from Jacksonville, FL. "We had to take what we learned and turn it into quick actions."

The CLS course was physically and mentally exhausting at times, but the 96th Deadeye Soldiers were proud of their accomplishments, and confident in their new knowledge.

"You never know when you're going to need it," said Fleming. "Now I know what I'm doing, and I know what to look for. It was good training."





## 96th Promotes Officers

Story by Cpl. Richmond Barkemeyer

Photos by Cpt. Anthony John

**NORTH FORT HOOD, Tx** - Three officers of the 96th Sustainment Brigade were promoted in a ceremony held July 12 at North Fort Hood, TX. Rodney J. Glover, Tanya Ellis Simmons, and Scott A. Whited were promoted to the rank of major.

Glover, a 19-year veteran of the Army, is currently serving as the S-4 for the Special Troops Battalion. His last assignment was with the 311th ESC in Los Angeles. Glover began his career by enlisting into the Oklahoma National Guard as a radio operator. After earning his degree from Louisiana State University, he attended Officer Candidate School and became a logistics officer. Before switching to an AGR position, Glover worked as a civil engineer, building water and sewage treatment plants.

Simmons, the Financial Management Officer for the 96th SBDE, has been in the Army for 15 years. Her previous assignment was with the 3rd Mobilization Support Group at Fort Richardson, AK. Simmons received her Bachelor of Science degree from South Carolina State University. She also holds an MBA from the University of Phoenix. On the civilian side, Simmons is an accountant for the Army Corps of Engineers. Simmons currently resides in Anchorage, AK, with her husband Kelvin Simmons, and their nine-month old dog, TK.

Whited's career began when he enlisted in the Army 14 years ago. After spending three years on active duty in Germany, he earned his degree from Tennessee Technological University and commissioned as an infantry officer, eventually switching to the adjutant general branch. Whited is currently the executive officer for the Special Troops Battalion. His last assignment was with the

63rd Regional Readiness Command in Los Alamitos, CA. Whited lives in San Bernardino, CA, with his wife, Mary, and their two sons, Andrew, 16, and Christopher, 13.

The Majors share an enthusiasm for their new rank, and the responsibilities that come with it. "It was a long time coming, after six years as a captain," said Simmons. "You're constantly learning and developing for this level in your career. You're excited to make it to the field-grade rank."

"Being a captain is one of the longer ranks for officers," said Whited. "I'd been a captain for nearly six years, so I was excited to put on the rank of major."

Glover agreed, saying, "It's long overdue."



The promotions come as the 96th SBDE prepares to deploy in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. "We have a unique mission. It's going to be different," said Glover, who previously spent 12 months on the ground in Talil, Iraq. "Even though I was deployed 2 years ago, this is going to be different because the outcome is so uncertain, and there's nobody coming behind us."

"I'm very excited to mobilize with another unit," said Simmons. "This is my first mobilization with a unit this large. My previous deployment to Afghanistan was a very small detachment."

"I'm really looking forward to it. It's going to be a lot of fun," said Whited. "And if it's not fun, we're going to make it fun. Bottom line, we're going to get out there, be smart, and take care of the Soldiers."

## A Word from our Chaplain:

As the author of Ecclesiastes said, "There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven: a time to be born and a time to die ..... a time to love and a time to hate, a time for war and a time for peace." We wish that we didn't have to go to war, but now our time has come. As we all know, throughout human history, war has been inevitable and considered to be an ugly thing. I am thankful that we are trained and ready to deploy. As an Army chaplain for the last fifteen years, I have had many opportunities to study about different wars. Wars always leave painful or terrible scars afterward. During the last several years my focus has been with Soldiers who are struggling with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder from the war we encountered. I have also struggled to see if we have any solutions to PTSD. I am not sure about the solutions on that, but we can find some lessons from the Bible to guide.

In Deuteronomy 20:16 "... in the cities of the nations the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance, do not leave alive anything that breathes. Completely destroy them ..... As the Lord your God has commanded you". Again in I Samuel 15:3, God instructed Israelites to attack the Amalekites and totally destroy everything that belonged to them. Do not spare them; put to death men

and women, children and infants, cattle and sheep, camels and donkeys. What a cruel God! How could a merciful God do such a thing? I am not here to talk about the justice of God. I want to talk about the people who followed God's instruction to kill. Israelites followed the order and destroyed their enemies completely. Of course, God was with them and lead them to victory. My interest is not on who had the victory. My focus is on what happens after the battle. It is very obvious they committed the



merciless killing of women, children, and infants. I remember many of our Vietnam veterans who had to shoot some innocent people. They suffered from the remorse and the feelings of guilt for their actions. Interestingly, the Bible does not mention anything about PTSD or how many Israelites suffered from the guilt of killing. They surely did not suffer from what they have done in the war.

My conclusion here is to remind everyone that if we have faith in God, we would not have to be burdened with what we have done in war. We

are called to deploy to the theater by the order of our leaders by the Constitution of our country. In addition to that, if we have faith in the Creator who has power and control over our lives, we would not blame ourselves for what we do in the war. I pray that everyone feels that God is the one who called us to war and to do our mission. I also pray that everyone feels great to answer God's call to war and that we will be back safely this time next year. By that time, we will have grown a lot to be a much better and experienced person. Even though such sad things as war happen, life is good, and the world is still a wonderful place to live. It is an honor for me to serve with you as your Brigade Chaplain. May the Lord continue to bless all of you and your families during our deployment.

- Chaplain (MAJ) Daesoo Lee





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		1	2	5	8	9		

Sudoku No.: 13779

#### Across

1. State bird of Arizona
6. Violet (state flower)
7. Palmetto Tree (state tree)
8. Capital of Illinois
10. Pelican State
11. The Natural State
12. \_\_\_\_\_ of Statehood
14. Wolverine State
16. Willow Ptarmigan (state bird)
18. Tar Heel State
20. State flower of New Mexico
21. Yellowhammer State

#### Down

1. Rocky Mountain Columbine (state flower)
2. State bird of West Virginia
3. Sego Lily (state flower)
4. Willow Goldfinch (state bird)
5. Single-leaf Pinyon (state tree)
8. Capital of Oregon
9. Peach State
12. Peach Blossom (state flower)
13. Ring-necked Pheasant (state bird)
15. Wild Rose (state flower)
17. Tulip Poplar (state tree)
19. Golden State



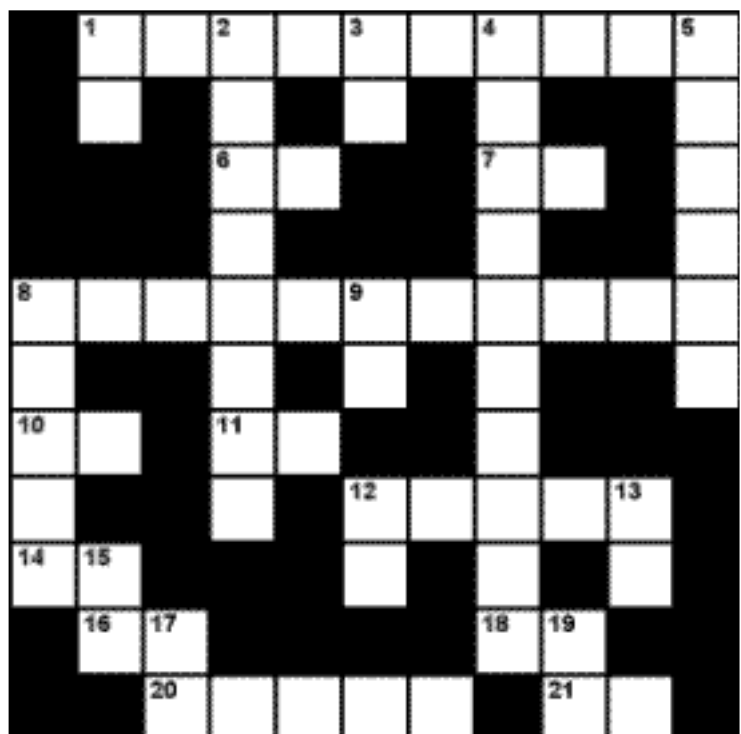
## Deep Thoughts

by: Jack Handy

"One day one of my little nephews came up to me and asked me if the equator was a real line that went around the Earth, or just an imaginary one. I had to laugh. Laugh and laugh. Because I didn't know, and I thought that maybe by laughing he would forget what he asked me."

"Whenever I need to ``get away," I just get away in my mind. I go to my imaginary spot, where the beach is perfect and the water is perfect and the weather is perfect. The only bad thing there is the flies. They're terrible!"

"When I was a child, there were times when we had to entertain ourselves. And usually the best way to do that was to turn on the TV."



\*Solutions will be published in next issue.

