

Good afternoon members of the Senate education committee, Chairman Ryan. My name is Kristi Geisser. My husband and I have seven (7) children, six (6) sons and one (1) daughter. They range in age from eight (8) years to twenty-six (26) years. We are in our fifteenth (15) year of Home Schooling.

I am here to testify in opposition to SB291.

First of all I would like you to know that I think that all of my children are quite exceptional but in my testimony I would like to concentrate on my three (3) older sons, Steven, Scott and Sean who were Home Schooled seven (7), ten (10) and twelve (12) years respectively.

Our oldest son Steven is a CNA who has partnered with three (3) other people in the Health Care profession that are operating a successful Home Health Care business here in the Helena area. Steven received his certification when he was fifteen (15) years old from the Broadwater Health Center in Townsend, Mt. He aced the state exam and was scheduled and on the floor before his sixteenth (16th) birthday. Along with working almost full time he finished his schooling, took the GED (of which his overall battery was in the eightieth (80th) percentile) And earned his Eagle Scout Award. All before his eighteenth (18th) birthday. Steven is married and between him and his wife they have three (3) children. Steven plans to go to school to be an LPN or RN someday.

I hope you weren't frightened when you saw the packet of papers that I gave you. Most of them are copies of awards that our second (2nd) son Scott has earned during his military service beginning in May of 2001. At this point I would like you to refer to the newspaper article that I have included in my testimony packet with the updated additions attached.

Scott did not take the GED. He scored in the ninety-ninth (99th) percentile on the ASVAB (the military entrance exam) and decided that he must have been educated and the military agreed.

Our third (3rd) son Sean would maybe have been labeled "special needs" if he had been educated in the public school system. Myself, I think he is just a very special person. Sean is dislexic but has worked very hard and has overcome many obstacles. On his GED he scored in the ninety-eighth (98th) percentile in Language Arts/Reading. Sean is an outstanding athlete, earning MVP honors at the MCAA (Montana Christian Athletics Association) state tournament when he was a senior, when his team only placed second. He also earned several all tournament first and second team honors throughout his high school years. Sean is awaiting acceptance in the United States Navy. Maybe some day I will have a packet full of awards that Sean has earned to show people.

Now you might be wondering at this point what all the bragging is about. Well, Senator Ryan seems to think that Home School parents (teachers) need to have a teaching certificate or a degree to teach their own children. All I have is a high school diploma from Broadwater County High School in Townsend, Mt. Unless on course you count my degree from the School of Hard Knocks.

Thank you for your time and consideration to kill this bad bill here in committee.

Kristi Geisser

266-4327

Scott Geisser graduates from Combat Control School

On Sept. 19, Airman First Class Scott A. Geisser graduated from Air Force special operations Combat Control School, Class 03-03, at Pope AFB, North Carolina. Guest speaker was Brigadier General (sel) Robert H. Holmes, Commander, 37th Training Wing.

Along with receiving his beret, Scott also received the Jerome E. Bennett award. This is an award given by his peers to the graduate that exemplifies the outstanding qualities of teamwork, camaraderie, and a "can-do" spirit. The best of the best: Jerome E. Bennett was a technical sergeant who lost his life during combat control training in 1986.

Scott began his military career with Montana National Guard unit Company A, 2nd Battalion, 46th Infantry, 1st Armored Training Brigade, completing Basic Training at Fort Knox, Kentucky, on May 24, 2001. Scott then completed Petroleum Supply Specialist Course at United States Army Quartermaster School, Fort Lee, Va. on July 26, 2001, graduating as the distinguished graduate of his class. Scott also received the Army Achievement Award which read, "Your selection as Honor Graduate of 77F at Fort Lee, Va. During the period of 29 May to 26 July, 2001. Your demonstration of exemplary physical fitness, academic excellence, and outstanding soldier skills display a level of excellence to be admired by all. Your achievement reflects a true credit to yourself, your unit and

the Montana Army National Guard." On October 24, 2001 Scott served as an Olympic Team Member with security at the 2002 Winter Olympics in Salt Lake City, Utah. He received a Certificate of Achievement for exceptionally meritorious achievement in support of the 2002 Olympic Winter Games. On July 24, 2002, PFC Scott A. Geisser was Honorably Discharged from the United States Army. Scott then joined the United States Air Force and successfully completed the Prior Service Sister Service Enlistee Orientation Course on Aug. 2, 2002. On Aug. 16, 2002, Scott successfully completed the Combat Control Orientation Course at Lackland, AFB, Texas. Scott successfully completed the Combat Control Operator Fundamentals at Keesler AFB, Miss. on Oct. 24, 2002. On Jan. 8, 2003, Scott completed Combat Control Operator Tower Course at Keesler AFB, Miss. The USAF Air Education and Training Command Certified that on Jan. 10, 2003, AMN Scott A. Geisser is recognized as top graduate for superior academic achievement and high standards of leadership, teamwork, and character. Scott was awarded his diploma for successfully completing Airborne Course on March 7. On May 14, he successfully completed Combat Survival Training at Fairchild AFB, Wash. While at Fairchild AFB, Scott completed the Underwater Egress Training (UET) with Helicopter Emergency Egress Device (HEED) Course on May 19.



Scott Geisser proudly displays his graduation beret and Jerome E. Bennett Award plaque after completing Combat Control School

Scott was formally thanked by A. Galaviz, Commanding Officer, Marine Corps, Detachment, Lackland AFB, Texas for outstanding support and superior performance in assisting with Amite High School JROTC students in repelling on June 3. After graduating Combat Control School in September, Scott completed pre-scuba training at Hurlburt Field, Fla. on Dec. 8. On Jan. 5, 2004 Scott reported to Special Forces Underwater Operations Training at Key West, Fla.

Scott is the son of Fred and Kristi Geisser, Townsend. He at-

tended Cecilia Hazelton Elementary School in Townsend through the second grade. He was then Home Schooled by his parents, completing his schooling in May, 1999. Scott is married and has two children. His wife Kelly and children Taylor, 4, and Aaron, 1, live in Helena. They will hopefully be joining him in Florida after his scuba training is complete.

To place your ad in
Townsend Star
Call 266-3333

On Feb. 5, 2004 Scott Geisser received his Combat Diver certification and was given the Academic Achievement Award which read: A1C Scott Geisser you have been selected as the Honor Graduate for the Combat Diver Qualification Course, class 502-04. During this high intensity course of instruction you distinguished yourself, from your among your peers, by achieving excellence in your accumulative training and academic test scores. This considerable accomplishment reflects great credit upon you, and the United States Air Force. You have set the standard for all Combat Diver candidates to follow. On Apr. 8, 2004 Scott graduated from Military Freefall Parachutists School at Mesa Training Ground, Arizona. On Dec. 3, 2004, A1C Scott A. Geisser graduated as an operational Combat Controller at Hurlburt AFB in Florida and was awarded the John A. Chapman Award by his peers. John A. Chapman was a Combat Controller who lost his life during combat in Afganastan.



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CERTIFICATE OF TRAINING

This is to certify that
PRIVATE FIRST CLASS SCOTT GEISSER
has successfully completed

Basic Combat Training

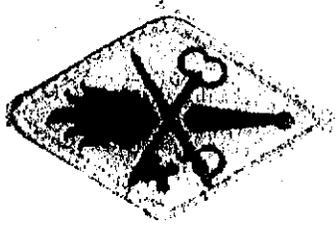
Company A, 2^d Battalion, 46th Infantry, 1st Armored Training Brigade

During the period of 20 March 2001 through 24 May 2001

Given at FT Knox, KY 40121



KIETH BARDO
CPT, AR
Commanding



Basic Petroleum Logistics Division

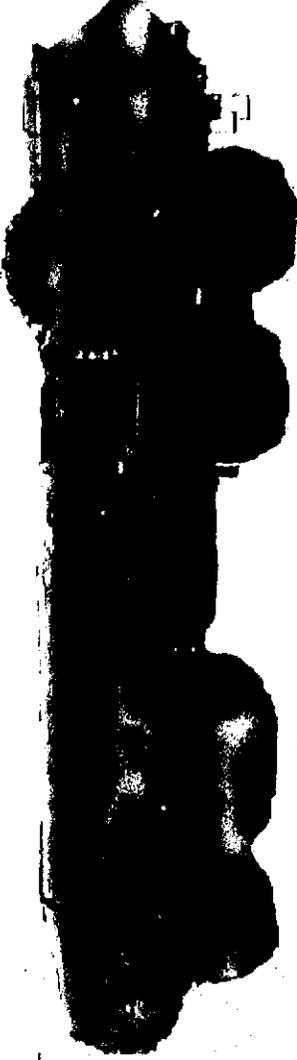
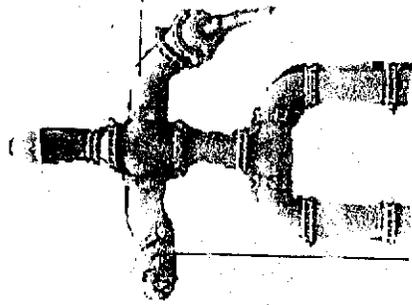
Quartermaster School



United State Army
Fort Lee, Virginia



CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT



This Certifies That

PFC GEISSER, SCOTT A. 516-15-0056

Is awarded this Certificate for
OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT AS DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE
OF CLASS 058-01 GPA 99.60

Given at Ft. Lee, VA. This 26 day of July, 2001 A.D.



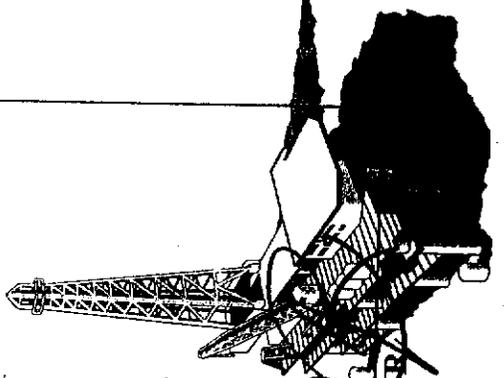
Ernest Williams

MSG ERNEST WILLIAMS
NCOIC, BPLD

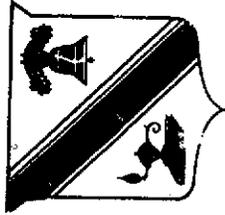
Alexander D. Davis

MAJ OTIS SPENCER, R.
DIVISION CHIEF, BPLD

Alexander D. Davis
ALEXANDER D. DAVIS SR.
LTC, QM
COMMANDING



United States Army
Quartermaster School



Presents this
Certificate of Achievement
to

PFC SCOTT A GEISSER 516-15-0056

In acknowledgement of outstanding achievement as the distinguished graduate of

PETROLEUM SUPPLY SPECIALIST COURSE 821-77F10

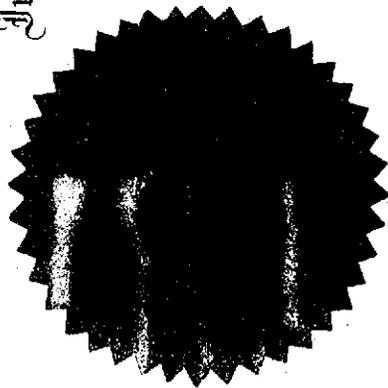
Given under my hand at the

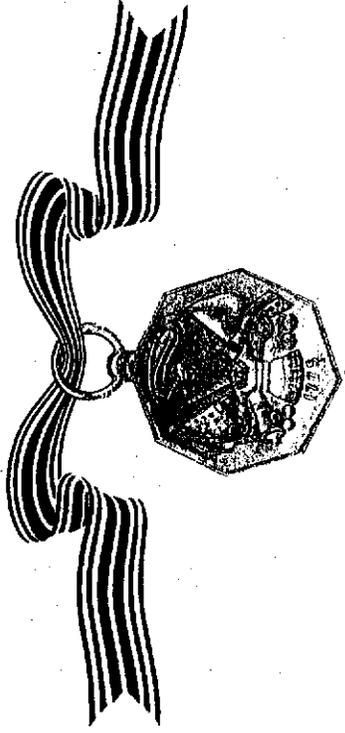
United States Army Quartermaster School, Fort Lee, Virginia,

this 26TH day of JULY in the year of our Lord, 2001



The Quartermaster General





DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

THIS IS TO CERTIFY THAT THE SECRETARY OF THE ARMY HAS AWARDED

THE ARMY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL

TO PFC SCOTT A. GEISSER

FOR Your selection as Honor Graduate of 77F at Ft. Lee, VA during the period of 29 May 2001 to 26 July 2001. Your demonstration of exemplary physical fitness, academic excellence, and outstanding soldier skills display the level of excellence to be admired by all. Your achievement reflects a true credit to yourself, your unit and the Montana Army National Guard.



for
DAVID J. MCGUIRE
LTC, AV, MT ARNG
Commanding

Permanent Order 216-001

RECOMMENDATION FOR AWAFD

For use of this form, see AR 600-8-22; the proponent agency is ODCSPER

For valor/heroism/wartime and all awards higher than MSM, refer to special instructions in Chapter 3, AR 600-8-22.

1. TO CDR HQ 1-189TH AVN (CSAB) PO BOX 4789, HELENA, MT 59604-4789	2. FROM CDR HHC 1-189TH AVN (CSAB) PO BOX 4789, HELENA, MT 59604-4789	3. DATE 2001/08/04
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PART I - SOLDIER DATA

4. NAME GEISSER, SCOTT A.	5. RANK PFC	6. SSN 516-15-0056
7. ORGANIZATION HHC 1-189TH AVN (CSAB) HELENA, MT	8. PREVIOUS AWARDS NONE	
9. BRANCH OF SERVICE MT ARNG	10. RECOMMENDED AWARD AAM	11. PERIOD OF AWARD a. FROM 29 MAY 2001 b. TO 26 JULY 2001
12. REASON FOR AWARD 12a. INDICATE ACH, SVC, PCS, ETS OR RET ACH	12b. INTERIM AWARD <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO IF YES, STATE AWARD GIVEN	13. POSTHUMOUS YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

PART II - RECOMMENDER DATA

14. NAME PATRICIA D. PRUETT	15. ADDRESS PO BOX 4789 HELENA, MT 59604-4789
16. TITLE/POSITION PERSONNEL SERGEANT	17. RANK SSG
18. RELATIONSHIP TO AWARDEE SECTION SERGEANT	19. SIGNATURE 

PART III - JUSTIFICATION AND CITATION DATA *(Use specific bullet examples of meritorious acts or service)*

20. ACHIEVEMENTS

ACHIEVEMENT #1
 PC Geisser was recognized during his 77F AIT at Ft. Lee, VA for academic excellence, physical fitness, soldier skills and competence earning his "Honor Graduate" of his class.

ACHIEVEMENT #2
 He exceeded the standards in both academics and physical fitness during Basic Training and AIT.

ACHIEVEMENT #3
 By being recognized as Honor Graduate of AIT, he represents an outstanding example of the excellence that we strive to achieve in the Montana Army National Guard.

ACHIEVEMENT #4

21. PROPOSED CITATION

Your selection as Honor Graduate of 77F AIT at Ft. Lee, VA during the period of 29 May 2001 to 26 July 2001. Your demonstration of exemplary physical fitness, academic excellence, and outstanding soldier skills displays the level of excellence to be admired by all. Your achievement reflects a true credit to yourself, your unit and the Montana Army National Guard.

NAME
GEISSER, SCOTT A. SSN
516-15-0056

PART IV - RECOMMENDATIONS/APPROVAL/DISAPPROVAL

22. I certify that this individual is eligible for an award in accordance with AR 600-8-22; and that the information contained in Part I is correct.
22a. SIGNATURE
22b. DATE
2001/08/04
23. INTERMEDIATE AUTHORITY
a. TO
b. FROM
c. DATE
2001/08/04

d. RECOMMEND: APPROVAL DISAPPROVAL
e. NAME
MARK J. MCGINELY
f. RANK
UPGRADE TO: DOWNGRADE TO:
g. TITLE/POSITION
COMPANY COMMANDER
h. SIGNATURE
CPT
i. COMMENTS

24. INTERMEDIATE AUTHORITY
a. TO
b. FROM
c. DATE

d. RECOMMEND: APPROVAL DISAPPROVAL
e. NAME
f. RANK
UPGRADE TO: DOWNGRADE TO:
g. TITLE/POSITION
h. SIGNATURE
i. COMMENTS

25. INTERMEDIATE AUTHORITY
a. TO
b. FROM
c. DATE

d. RECOMMEND: APPROVAL DISAPPROVAL
e. NAME
f. RANK
UPGRADE TO: DOWNGRADE TO:
g. TITLE/POSITION
h. SIGNATURE
i. COMMENTS

26. APPROVAL AUTHORITY
a. TO HQ 1-189TH AVN (CSAB) HELENA, MT
b. FROM HHC 1-189TH AVN (CSAB) HELENA, MT
c. DATE
2001/08/03

d. APPROVED DISAPPROVED
e. NAME
DAVID J. MCGUIRE
f. RANK
LTC
g. TITLE/POSITION
BATTALION COMMANDER
h. SIGNATURE
i. COMMENTS

PART V - ORDERS DATA

27a. ORDERS ISSUING HQ
HQ 1-189TH AVN (CSAB)
27b. PERMANENT ORDER NO.
216-001
31. DISTRIBUTION
1-SOLDIER
1-DCSPER/PSB
1-UNIT
28a. NAME OF ORDERS APPROVAL AUTHORITY
PATRICIA D. PRUETT
28b. RANK
SSG
29. APPROVED AWARD
AAM
28c. TITLE/POSITION
PERSONNEL SERGEANT
28d. SIGNATURE
30. DATE
2001/08/03

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
MONTANA ARMY NATIONAL GUARD
Headquarters, 1st Battalion 189th Aviation (CSAB)
Post Office Box 4789
Helena, Montana 59604-4789

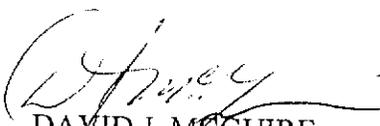
CSAB-A

24 October 2001

MEMORANDUM FOR PFC Scott Geisser, 516-15-0056, HHC 1-189th Avn (CSAB)

SUBJECT: Award of the Montana National Guard Physical Readiness Training Ribbon

1. In accordance with DMA MT Regulation 600-8-22, you are hereby awarded the Montana National Guard Physical Readiness Training Ribbon (1st Award) for a score of 281 on the three-part Army Physical Fitness Test Taken on 13 October 2001.
2. You are authorized to wear this ribbon on your Class A uniform.


DAVID J. MCGUIRE
LTC, AV, MT ARNG
Commanding





CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

Awarded to

Scott Geisser

Thank you for your hard work and dedication

in helping us

"Light The Fire Within"

making this the most successful

Winter Olympics Games in History

Robert E. Flowers

President Robert E. Flowers
President of UOPSC

Dave M. Tubbs

Dave M. Tubbs
UOPSC Executive Director



SALT LAKE 2002


T.J. Kennedy

Captain T.J. Kennedy
Aviation Director

Buryl E. Dooley

Buryl E. Dooley
Aviation Support Coordinator

Joint Task Force – Olympics Certificate of Achievement



Is presented to:

PFC SCOTT GEISSER

*For exceptionally meritorious achievement
in support of the*

2002 Olympic Winter Games

January – March 2002

February 12, 2002

Date

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J.D. Johnson".

J.D. JOHNSON

Brigadier General
Commanding