

Rangers win All-Army Long-Range Championships

By Paula J. Randall Pagán

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FORT BENNING, Ga. - Two Sniper Platoon Soldiers of the 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, took the top prizes in the All-Army Long-Range Rifle Competition.

Staff Sgt. Jared N. van Aalst won the U.S. Army Long-Range Sniper Class Rifle Championship and Staff Sgt. Robby D. Johnson took the 2005 U.S. Army Long-Range Service Rifle Class Championship. The All-Army Overall Long-Range Rifle Championship was an aggregate of three matches that were fired March 21 to 23 at distances of 600, 800 and 1,000 yards at Maertens Range.

Taking second place in the Overall Long-Range Sniper Class Championship was 2nd Lt. Jason E. Keohler of Fort Bragg, N.C. In second place overall in the Long-Range Service Rifle Class was Pfc. Brandon K. Green of the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit.

An Army Reservist of the 94th Division, 1st Sgt. Scott Anzivino, won the 1,000-Yard Sniper Class Long-Range Rifle match and Green took the Service Rifle Class.

The Sniper Class winner in the 800-Yard competition was Sgt. Christopher L. Carter of the 3rd Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, and Johnson was the Service Rifle winner.

Sgt. 1st Class Kevin W. Bittenbender of the Pennsylvania National Guard won the Sniper Class 600-Yard Long-Range Championship; Johnson was the Service Rifle Class winner.

The U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit hosted the All-Army Small Arms Championships in conjunction with the U.S. Army Infantry Center March 12 to 23.

(Formed in 1956 by President Dwight D. Eisenhower to raise the standards of marksmanship throughout the U.S. Army, the Army Marksmanship Unit is assigned to the Accessions Support Brigade of Fort Knox, Ky., which is under U.S. Army Accessions Command, of Fort Monroe, Va. Accessions Command is charged with overseeing recruiting and training of the Army's enlisted Soldiers and officers. The Marksmanship Unit trains its Soldiers to win competitions and enhances combat readiness through train-the-trainer clinics, research and development. The world-class Soldier-athletes of the USAMU also promote the Army and assist recruiters in attracting young Americans to enlist in the Army. For more information on the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit, contact the Public Affairs Office at (706) 545-5436, paula.pagan@usaac.army.mil or <http://www.usarec.army.mil/hq/amu/>.)