

e three kings are played by aden Rogowski, Aiden Mateos and Richard Hynick.



Chris Huntington plays the trumpet in the Gate of Heaven orchestra.



Niccolo Diana and Erika Doran drummed their way through the production of 'Candy Cane Lane.'

### Fresh faces shine in decades-old pageant



Jordan Dutko plays Mary and Adam Walp is Joseph in the annual first-grade production of the Christmas story at Gate of Heaven School.

# CONTINUING TRADITIONS

ven the smallest of students got into the act at this year's Gate of Heaven Christmas program.

The annual performance was held on Dec. 10 at the school.





Helping Todd Kindler play his part in the pre-kindergarten/kindergarten production of 'Candy Cane Lane' is veteran Joan Keating, Joseph Ryan and Gwendyth Pockevich.

LEFT: Connor Healey is a real little

## Army perfect fit for Ironhorse trooper

hile growing up in Dallas, Pvt. Richard Huey III, knew he wanted to join the U.S. Army. Huey's decision was partly affected by his family's strong military background.

His grandfather served in World War II and his father served in Vietnam, both with the United States Navy.

And although he didn't enlist right away, Huey has followed his dream.

"[Huey] is a motivated and squared away individual; he always gets his job done," complimented Staff Sgt. James Hooser, a shop foreman assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Brigade Special Troops Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Divi-

Barely two weeks into his military career, Huev earned an Army Achievement Medal and a battalion coin for his dedication during a field exercise for his new brigade.

The AAM is awarded for meritorious service or achievement in either combat or noncombat, based on sustained performance or specific achievement of an outstanding nature.

"I appreciate the recognition for what I did," Huey said about his award, "but I was only doing my job."

That work ethic and enthusiasm stem from Huey's prior job as an industrial mechanic.

"Working with machines is a lot like working with cars," Huey said about his alternate occupational choice.

"Since the age of 13, I have been working with muscle cars. Engines and electricity just come easy to me."

After 14 years of working in the union, Huey decided to fulfill his dream of becoming a soldier and enlisted as a power generator mechanic.

"I worked the same type of job in the civilian world, so I already knew the basics," he said about his choice.

"I love the mechanical aspect. of machines and I worked as an electrician so it was all familiar to me already. Plus, I was ready to serve my country."

In March of this year, Huey shipped to Fort Benning, Ga. for basic combat training, then attended Fort Lee, Va. for his advanced individual train-

ber, Huey's first task was thefield maintained. exercise with the Ironhorse bri-

"As soon as they learned that I was a generator mechanic, they informed me I would instantly be sent to the field," Huey said, explaining his introduction to

Less than a week later, Huey can. deployed to the field.

"Being his first week with the unit, he definitely made a first impression of being a charger," said Sgt. Dirk Zimmerman, a Bradley mechanic.

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Dallas native Pvt. Richard Huey III.

"He volunteered for many tasks and kept busy."

While in the field, Huey took great pride in caring for the brigade's generators and helped create a successful exercise.

He also made regular trips around the site to check the gen-Arriving to his unit in Septem- erators, ensuring they were

> He used his knowledge of generators to hook a three-kilowatt generator to the eating tent, allowing access to lights for the dinner meal.

> Huey plans to apply for warrant officer school or climb the enlisted ladder as far as he

"I have no regrets in my decision to join the Army," he said. "There have been stumbles here and there, but it would be like that anywhere. I love it."

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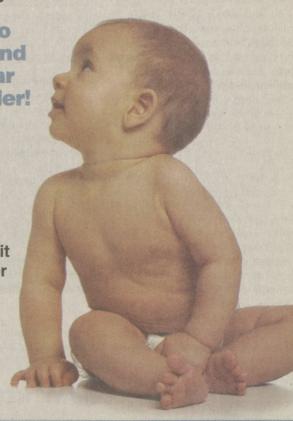
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