ISSUE 01

JUL - SEP 2026

# DIAMOND

## Nothing but Fight Left

Diamond Week ends in the ring

## Earning The Stripes

The Brigade inducts its Newest NCOs

### 75TH FA BRIGADE

## 105 Years of Combat Readiness

# The Colors Change Hands

**CSM Garry C. Pruitt relinquishes responsibility as the Diamond Brigade welcomes CSM Phillip T. Cole**

U.S. ARMY

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# Letter From The Commander

Diamond Brigade Soldiers, Families, and Friends,

Welcome to the first issue of DIAMOND.

For 105 years, the 75th Field Artillery Brigade has answered the nation's call by executing the demanding mission of: delivering devastating fires at range on time, and under pressure. What you will read in these pages is a testament to how our Soldiers sustained that legacy between July and September of 2026.

This quarter also marked a seamless transition in our senior enlisted leadership as we welcomed Command Sergeant Major Phillip Cole to the team. Command Sergeant Major Cole and I are focused on maintaining the high standards of the F.IG.H.T. principles that define the Diamond Brigade. Together, we are committed to building teams of expert warfighters who are ready to deploy, fight, and win on any battlefield.

To our Families and the Lawton-Fort Sill community, Thank You. The readiness of our brigade is built on the stability and strength you provide at home. This publication is designed to give you a window into the incredible work your Soldiers do every day to defend this nation.

Looking at the next fiscal year, our training and operational focus will be guided by five enduring principles: Focus on the Fundamentals, Innovation, Global Focus, Honorable Action and being Tough as Diamonds.

Thank you for your service, your sacrifice, and your commitment to this team.

Tough as Diamonds!

PAUL I. LASHLEY
COL, FA
COMMANDING

# Letter From The Brigade CSM

**Diamond Brigade Soldiers, Noncommissioned Officers, and Families,**

**Being a Command Sergeant Major is a privilege; it's not a right. Representing the Officers, NCOs, Soldiers, and Families as the Command Sergeant Major for the 75th Field Artillery Brigade is an opportunity I do not take lightly. Taking the colors from CSM Garry C. Pruitt means accepting responsibility for the most lethal Artillery Brigade, a proven standard, and carrying it forward. Every leader I have seen across this formation since putting on the Diamond patch understands our foundation here needs to remain solid.**

**A brigade's lethal edge does not start on the firing line. It starts with our daily disciplines led by our Noncommissioned Officer Corps. This past quarter showed exactly what that looks like in execution. Out at the National Training Center, 2-18 Field Artillery pushed autonomous launcher systems through Project Convergence Capstone 6, proving what happens when disciplined leaders take new technologies in realistic operating conditions and enhance Corps-level operations. During recent Artillery certifications, 2-4 Field Artillery qualified its crews on Table VI and tested its medics under mass-casualty pressure. Across Fort Sill and Altus, 2-20 Field Artillery ran the full table progression during Operation Phoenix Rising, moving and shooting under simulated enemy threat. We inducted a sharp group of new corporals and sergeants into the Corps, and we closed Diamond Week standing toe-to-toe in the combatives ring. What you see here is a fraction of what our units delivered over the past three months.**

**Our grit defines who we are. When a new Soldier stands in the Diamond Reception formation to receive our patch, they need to see leaders who master the basics, enforce standards without compromise, and train their crews to fight and win. My focus remains deliberate: enforcing that standard, building lethal crews, and developing adaptive, accountable leaders at every echelon. Equipment and doctrine will evolve, but the individual Soldier and the squad leader remain the center of gravity.**

**To the Families who back us up through late shifts, unexpected recalls, and demanding field cycles: thank you for your commitment to this team. You provide the stability that keeps this formation ready to answer the nation's call.**

**Take care of each other, look out for your battle buddies, and take pride in the craft.**

**Tough as Diamonds.**



**PHILLIP T. COLE**
**BrigadeCommand Sergeant Major**
**75th Field Artillery Brigade, III Armored Corps**

# The Diamonds Test the Future of Fires

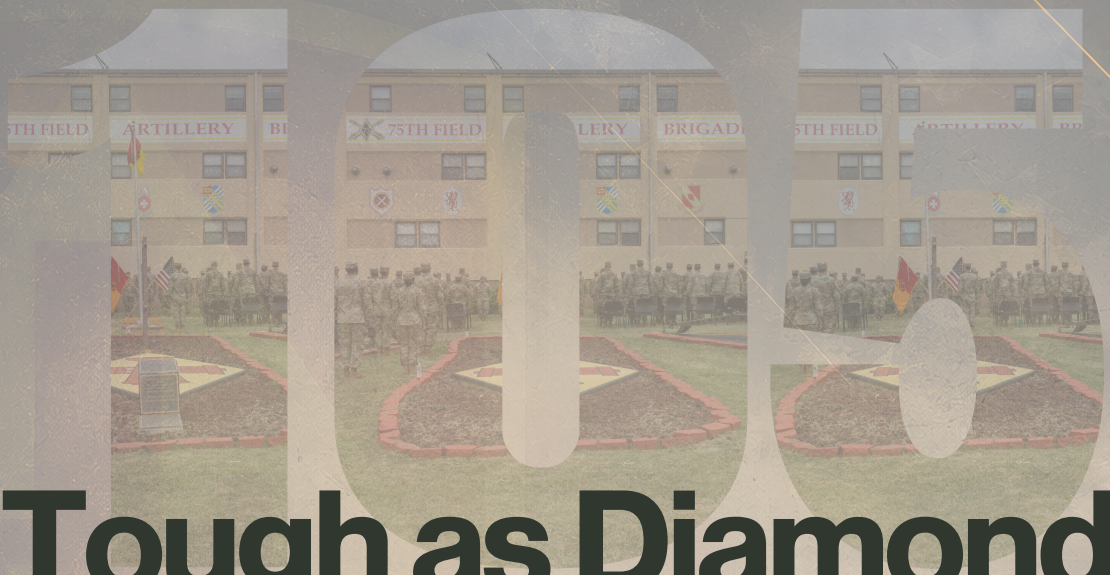
**Soldiers assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 18th Field Artillery Regiment, 75th Field Artillery Brigade, test an experimental autonomous launcher and command system during Project Convergence Capstone 6 at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin, California. The system pairs a DeepFires autonomous launcher and Autonomous Resupply Vehicle with a manned JUMPS command vehicle in a leader-follower configuration, keeping crews out of the line of fire while a single Section Chief operates multiple launchers. Under Secretary of the Army Michael Obadal visited 2-18 FAR on July 24 to observe the field demonstration and recognize Soldiers driving the technology forward.**









# Tough as Diamonds

The 75th Field Artillery Brigade marked 105 years of service on July 21, cutting a cake bearing the diamond crest at a Fort Sill MWR event built around a different kind of readiness: nutrition. Since 1921, the brigade has deployed during World War II, Desert Storm, Iraqi Freedom, Spartan Shield, and Inherent Resolve, as well as recent NATO rotations in Eastern Europe.



Celebrity chef, author, and Army veteran Robert Irvine joined Diamond Brigade Soldiers to speak on the critical role of performance fueling, coinciding with the brigade's rollout of an innovative campus-style dining concept designed to modernize nutritional support across the footprint. Food service advisor Chief Warrant Officer 2 Jerald Bonkowski emphasized that elevating dining facility standards directly enhances crew performance and battlefield lethality.



Addressing the formation, Irvine connected daily fuel to mission endurance, highlighting that physical readiness begins long before moving to the firing point: "We get them tanks, we give them bullets, we give them body armor, and now we are doing the same with food," Irvine said. The celebration reinforced that while modern technology and artillery platforms drive the mission, the Diamond Brigade's enduring combat power remains anchored in the discipline, stamina, and resilience of its Soldiers.



# Celebrating Diamond Week

The 75th Field Artillery Brigade commemorated its 105th anniversary with the return of Diamond Week, a tradition designed to build esprit de corps, sharpen unit morale, and offer Soldiers a well-earned opportunity to decompress from demanding field and range cycles. Across the brigade footprint, battalions stepped away from daily operational tempos to compete head-to-head in a slate of athletic games and sports tournaments, rallying behind their unit colors in fierce, friendly competition. The celebration reinforced the camaraderie, physical toughness, and enduring pride that have bound the Diamond formation together for over a century.











# Diamond Week





















# Inviting The Community Ringside




Staff Sgt. Galavotti and Command Sgt. Maj. Garry C. Pruitt sat down on set with KSWO's Good Morning Texoma to invite the Lawton-Fort Sill community to the finale of Diamond Week: the brigade combatives tournament. With the matches open to the public, the broadcast gave viewers an inside look at how our Soldiers train for hand-to-hand combat while opening the doors for local supporters to pack the stands.



# The Preliminaries

**Before anyone stepped under the lights for the finals, Soldiers from across the brigade went round after round on the mats during preliminary qualifiers. Battalions sent their toughest competitors to battle through the brackets, testing their ground game, stamina, and hand-to-hand fundamentals to earn a spot in the official tournament.**













# The Fight Roster

**Following intense elimination bouts during the preliminary rounds, these Soldiers punched their tickets to the main event. Matched across weight divisions from flyweight to heavyweight, each competitor brings a distinct discipline, unit backing, and fighting style into the ring, with only one walking out as the Diamond Brigade champion.**



# Fight Night

**In front of a packed Lawton–Fort Sill crowd, the Diamond Week Combatives Tournament reached its boiling point during fight night. From calculated takedowns to technical submissions, Soldiers left everything in the ring to bring home battalion bragging rights and claim their place at the top of the podium.**





















# Fight Night

















# Welcoming New Diamonds

Every new Soldier who arrives at the 75th Field Artillery Brigade goes through Diamond Reception, a week-long program built to turn newcomers into Diamonds before they ever report to their unit. The week is packed with classes on the brigade's history, mission, and standards, along with hands-on training that includes combatives.






At the end of the week, Soldiers and their sponsors stand in formation for the Diamond Reception Patching Ceremony, where sponsors place the brigade patch on their new Soldier's uniform. It's a small moment with a clear message: you're a Diamond now, and the brigade is invested in your success from day one.

# Validated and Ready

**U.S. Army crews assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 4th Field Artillery Regiment (2-4th FAR), 75th Field Artillery Brigade (75th FAB), participate in a Multiple Launch Rocket System (MLRS) Table VI qualification as part of routine training at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, on Aug. 26, 2026. The M270 MLRS employs the same munitions as the M142 High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS), which streamlines interoperability and logistics with U.S. and coalition forces while increasing missile loadout to two rocket pods. 2-4 FAR places people first, builds lethality for large-scale combat operations, and, on order, deploys worldwide to provide accurate, timely, and decisive rocket and missile fires in support of III Armored Corps.**



















# 2-4 FAR























# 75th Welcomes CSM Phillip Cole

**The 75th Field Artillery Brigade welcomed a new senior enlisted advisor during a change of responsibility ceremony here on 17 Aug. 2026, as CSM Garry C. Pruitt relinquished responsibility of the "Diamond Brigade" to CSM Phillip T. Cole.**





















**CSM Cole assumes responsibility for the brigade after serving as the command sergeant major of the 1st Battalion, 6th Field Artillery Regiment in Grafenwoehr, Germany. A native of Georgia, he enlisted in 1999 and completed initial training as a field artillery cannon crewmember at Fort Sill. He has served as a gunner, howitzer section chief, master gunner, battery first sergeant and operations sergeant major, including as the senior enlisted leader for two firing batteries in the 1st Cavalry Division, an observer coach/trainer at the Joint Readiness Training Center in Louisiana, and operations sergeant major for the 41st Field Artillery Brigade. His deployments include Kosovo, three rotations to Iraq, Operation New Dawn and Operation Spartan Shield.**

# NCO Induction Ceremony

**The 75th Field Artillery Brigade conducted its monthly Noncommissioned Officer Induction Ceremony at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, formally welcoming approximately 40 newly promoted leaders into the NCO Corps. Passing beneath the traditional rank arch and reciting the Creed of the Noncommissioned Officer in unison, these new corporals and sergeants crossed the threshold from those who are led to those who lead. Known universally as the backbone of our military, NCOs carry the sacred trust of small-unit discipline, technical proficiency, and Soldier welfare. They are the frontline leaders who translate strategic intent into relentless action, ensuring crews stay sharp, standards remain unbroken, and the formation stays ready to deploy, fight, and win.**
















# CSM James Light Conducts Battlefield Circulation

**Command Sgt. Maj. James Light, III Armored Corps command sergeant major, speaks with 75th Field Artillery Brigade leaders during a battlefield circulation across the installation footprint. Battlefield circulation remains a vital tool for senior enlisted leaders, serving as the ground-truth check that bridges corps-level intent with frontline execution. By getting out of headquarters and walking unit motor pools, classrooms, and firing points, senior leaders evaluate troop welfare, hear candid feedback from frontline crews, and assess firsthand how policy shapes operational readiness.**

















**Aligning his visit with the Diamond Brigade's change of responsibility ceremony, Light engaged junior noncommissioned officers and senior enlisted advisors on crew-level standards, talent management, and modern warfighting challenges. These face-to-face engagements ensure upper-echelon priorities directly support small-unit lethality, giving the corps command sergeant major an unfiltered pulse on the Soldiers who turn strategic firepower into decisive battlefield dominance.**

# Operation Phoenix Rising

**U.S. Army Soldiers assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 20th Field Artillery Regiment, 75th Field Artillery Brigade, conduct field operations during Operation Phoenix Rising across training areas at Fort Sill and Altus Air Force Base, Oklahoma. The exercise tested firing platoons through the full artillery table progression, from reconnaissance and tactical displacement to live qualifications, while integrating air defense, operating under simulated drone threat pressure, and relying on high-frequency radio communications in an austere operating environment.**


















# Singapore National Day

Lt. Col. Prakash Lekshmanan, Singapore Army liaison officer to Fort Sill, delivers a presentation on Singaporean culture and history during a Singapore National Day celebration at the Patriot Club on Fort Sill, Oklahoma, Aug. 28, 2026. The gathering brought together U.S. and allied service members and guests to celebrate Singapore's national heritage through cultural briefings and authentic cuisine, deepening multinational partnerships ahead of Exercise Daring Warrior. With the 75th Field Artillery Brigade preparing to execute the bilateral HIMARS exercise alongside a Singapore Armed Forces battery, Diamond Brigade Soldiers supported the celebration to build camaraderie and mutual understanding long before firing the first combined mission downrange.










# Operation Daring Warrior

**U.S. Army Soldiers assigned to the 75th Field Artillery Brigade conduct bilateral artillery training alongside the Singapore Armed Forces HIMARS battery during Exercise Daring Warrior 2026 at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Led by the Fires Center of Excellence and supported by the Diamond Brigade, the month-long bilateral exercise tested tactical interoperability between the two formations, including shared meteorological data feeds, integrated radar and fire support observation, and tactical standard operating procedure exchanges, culminating in a combined live-fire mission.**



# Operation Daring Warrior























# Running to Remember

**U.S. Army Soldiers assigned to the 75th Field Artillery Brigade join service members, Families, and Lawton–Fort Sill community members for the annual 9/11 Remembrance Run and Patriot Day observance outside McNair Hall at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. Organized in coordination with the Directorate of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, the event brought together the installation and local civic community to honor the service members, first responders, and innocent lives lost on September 11, 2001, reflecting on the shared resolve and sacrifice that continue to define the nation.**





















# Running to Remember









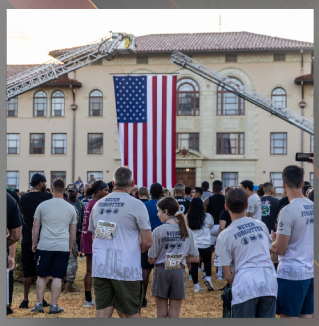
















# 40th Annual Diamond Run

**Fort Sill Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) hosted the 40th annual Diamond Run (5k, 10k, ruck) at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, on July 18, 2026. The Diamond Run was part of a run series that Fort Sill and MWR host throughout the year to promote health and active living.**





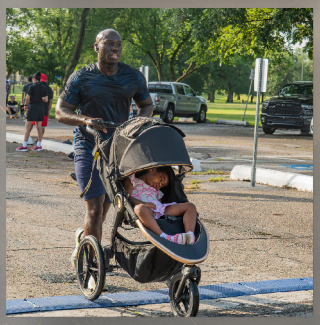













# Keeping Up with our H2F

**Over the past year, the Diamond Brigade's Holistic Health and Fitness (H2F) team has rapidly expanded from a single staff member to a robust crew of nine, establishing a fully functional clinic directly within the brigade's footprint. This immediate access to specialized healthcare and physical resources is already returning Soldiers to duty faster than ever before. Soldiers and family members are highly encouraged to share their thoughts, feedback, or recommendations to help the team continuously improve these programs by emailing 75thFAH2F@army.mil.**



Jared Tittle
Strength Coach



MAJ Lyndsee Loehr, DPT, MHA, OCS
H2F Program Director



Season Graves
Athletic Trainer



SPC Christopher Haynes
Occupational Therapy Tech




SPC Maxine Reed
Nutrition Care Specialist



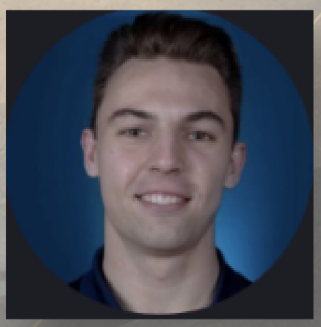
Brendan Gregory
Strength Coach



1LT Gesine Josy Akana Jiotsa
Occupational Therapist




SGT Joe Diaz
Physical Therapy Technician



1LT Patrick Crockett
Dietitian

# Keeping Up with our H2F



- **Weekly Newcomer Training (Every Friday, 0630–0730): Each Friday morning, the H2F team hosts a specialized physical workout or educational seminar for Diamond Brigade newcomers. These development sessions take place at the SunPro facility located directly behind the H2F building.**

- **Battalion Remembrance Event (08 OCT, 0600–0800): H2F is partnering with the R2 Performance Center and the 2-18 FA Unit Ministry Team for a dynamic Remembrance Event at LETRA. In a pirate-themed challenge, H2F staff will act as "pirates" tagging Soldiers as they navigate the course to find their "treasure."**

- **2-4 FA Morale & Training Day (02 NOV, 0630–1130): The H2F team will conduct a comprehensive Morale Event for 2-4 FA, kicking off with a team-building physical workout integrated with mental resilience training. Following the workout, the H2F Nutrition team will host an interactive cooking class, accompanied by multidisciplinary education covering all key domains of H2F performance.**

- **2-18 FA BSRT Education (05 NOV, 1000–1200): During the 2-18 FA Brigade Soldier Readiness Training (BSRT) event at the Medicine Park Music Hall, H2F is teaming up with Reynolds Army Health Clinic (RAHC) Physical Therapy. RAHC and H2F will provide critical Pain Management Education from 1000 to 1100, followed by nutritional wellness education from the H2F Nutrition Care team from 1100 to 1200, leading right into a lunch catered by The Olde Plantation Restaurant.**

# The Standard Behind the Campaign Hat

**Staff Sgt. Benjamin Brinker, Fox Battery, 1st Battalion, 40th Field Artillery Regiment, navigates the 12-mile ruck march during the 2026 Fires Center of Excellence Drill Sergeant of the Year competition at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, where he claimed the title after a multi-day gauntlet of tactical lanes, live-fire qualification, and academic boards.**













**The Diamond Brigade stepped in as an installation partner to provide visual information and media support for the weeklong trial. Public affairs specialists tracked competitors through early morning movements and range operations, capturing the b-roll and still imagery used to highlight the caliber of trainers shaping our Army's newest recruits. (U.S. Army photo by Cpl. Emmaney Wilson)**

# Salute to Armed Forces Game

Strong community relations are the bedrock of our installation's readiness, bridging the gap between local citizens, civic partners, and the service members training across our footprint. Recognizing this shared investment, the 75th Field Artillery Brigade consistently steps forward as a dedicated installation partner, providing public affairs coverage and visual information support to the Fires Center of Excellence Commanding General during key community engagements. Whether documenting outreach initiatives in Lawton or highlighting milestones, our team helps amplify the Fires Center of Excellence's strategic vision, ensuring the strong ties between Fort Sill and the surrounding community remain visible, enduring, and mutually supportive.











# Crisis & Emergency Resources



**Emergency & Installation Services**

- Emergency (Fire, Police, Medical): 911
- Military Police Desk: (580) 442-2103
- Fort Sill Police (Non-Emergency): (580) 442-2101 / 2102
- Installation Operations Center (IOC): (580) 442-3329 / 3241

**Suicide Prevention & Crisis Support**

- Veterans & Military Crisis Line: Dial 988, then Press 1 (or call (800) 273-8255, Press 1)
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline: Dial 988 (or (800) 273-8255)
- Crisis Text Line: Text HOME to 741741

**Sexual Assault & Harassment (SHARP)**

- Installation SHARP 24/7 Hotline: (580) 917-4277
- DoD Safe Helpline (24/7 Confidential): (877) 995-5247 | safehelpline.org

**Family Advocacy & Domestic Support**

- National Domestic Violence Hotline: (800) 799-7233 | TTY: (800) 787-3224
- National Child Abuse Hotline: (800) 422-4453
- National Teen Dating Abuse Helpline: (866) 331-9474 | TTY: (866) 331-8453

# Coming Up in October



# Coming Up in October



# Coming Up in October




## CHALLENGE GOAL:

Complete ONE of the following by October 14

**OPTION 1**
**STAIRMASTER**

COMPLETE 43,550 STEPS

**OPTION 2**
**TREADMILL**

15% INCLINE ONLY

WALK 37 TOTAL MILES

## HOW IT WORKS:

1. Register at the front desk starting September 7.
2. Choose the StairMaster, treadmill, or alternate.
3. Complete workouts at your own pace.
4. Log your workout with staff after each session.
5. Watch your progress as you advance advance through each Everest camp.
6. Reach the summit before October 14th to complete the challenge.

**Registration is required at Rinehart Fitness Center before beginning the challenge, but steps can be completed at any fitness center.**

## PROGRESS MILESTONES

**CAMP 1: 20%**
- STAIRMASTER: 8,710 STEPS
- TREADMILL: 7.4 MILES

**CAMP 2: 40%**
- STAIRMASTER: 17,420 STEPS
- TREADMILL: 14.0 MILES

**CAMP 3: 60%**
- STAIRMASTER: 26,130 STEPS
- TREADMILL: 22.2 MILES

**CAMP 4: 80%**
- STAIRMASTER: 34,840 STEPS
- TREADMILL: 29.6 MILES

**SUMMIT: 100%**
- STAIRMASTER: 43,550 STEPS
- TREADMILL: 37 MILES

**Participants who reach the summit by October 14 will earn the title of Everest Challenge Finisher, receive recognition on Rinehart's Wall of the Fittest, and receive a water bottle and T-shirt.**

FREE AND OPEN TO ALL AUTHORIZED PATRONS

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**
SILL.ARMYMWR.COM • (580) 442-6712
2730 Liberty Road, Fort Sill, OK

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TOUGH
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Never miss a moment of the action. From live-fire qualification ranges and bilateral exercises to unit milestones and ceremonies across the footprint, our DVIDS page is your direct link to high-resolution photos, news stories, and official brigade coverage. Scan the QR code to subscribe, download cleared imagery, and keep up with everything our Soldiers are accomplishing on the line.


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