



**278<sup>th</sup> Armored Cavalry Regiment  
Public Affairs Office  
3330 Sutherland Drive  
Knoxville, Tennessee 37919  
(865) 582-3225**

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## **Media Release 14-06**

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### **278th Armored Cavalry Regiment Announces Warrior of the Year**

**KNOXVILLE** – Two soldiers from the Tennessee Army National Guard's 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment were selected as the unit's Warriors of the Year on January 12 at Smyrna's Volunteer Training Site.

Staff Sgt. Michael Gentry, and Specialist Burton Holloway both from Nashville, were recognized for their superior physical and mental achievements after the unit's grueling multi-day competition held at the training site from January 9-12.

The competition included an Army Physical Fitness Test, a ten-mile road march while wearing full combat gear, individual weapons qualification, weapons assembly, land navigation, and a written exam with essay. Numerous other events were used to test the soldier's skills, including an interview in front of senior Non-Commissioned Officers who graded the soldier on military bearing, appearance, and answers to several military related questions.

Gentry, 24, a member of Troop A, Regimental Troop Squadron in Nashville, was honored as the Non-Commissioned Officer Warrior of the Year. The 23-year-old is a full-time student at Middle Tennessee State University, majoring in International Relations.

Holloway, 34, a member of Troop B, 1st Squadron in Springfield, received Warrior of the Year. He is a graduate in of Crown College, St. Bonafacius, Minnesota with a bachelor's degree in Pastoral Studies.

The soldiers are scheduled to compete in the Tennessee Army National Guard Warrior of the Year competition in March, at the Volunteer Training Site in Smyrna, where they will compete against other soldiers from other major commands of the Tennessee Army National Guard.

Winners at the state level will advance to a regional then national competition that includes active-duty, reserve and guard personnel.

**Photo Caption:** Staff Sgt. Michael Gentry, of Nashville, Tennessee eyes the finish line as he completes a ten mile road march. Holloway was selected as the 278th Armored Cavalry Regiments Non-Commissioned Officer Warrior of the year during competition at Volunteer Training Site in Smyrna, January 9-12.

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Specialist Burton Holloway of Nashville receives an order on the firing range at Tullahoma. Holloway was selected as 278th Armored Cavalry Regiments Warrior of the year during competition at Volunteer Training Site in Smyrna, January 9-12.

Story by Staff Sgt. Thomas Greene

Photos by Sgt. Arturo Guzman