



69th ADA Holds First Annual Turkey Bowl at Fort Hood

Courtesy Story by Cpl. Shane Sexton / 69th Air Defense Artillery Brigade / December 2009

FORT HOOD, Texas – Soldiers and Family members from the 69th Air Defense Artillery Brigade gathered Nov. 25 when the brigade hosted their first annual Turkey Bowl, a series of flag-football games, at Fort Hood Stadium.

Members from the unit's Family Readiness Group and Better Opportunity for Single Soldiers were on-hand during the game to provide drinks and snacks during the games.

It couldn't have been a nicer day for friends and Family to watch their teams take the field. The Turkey Bowl, and air defense tradition, presented an opportunity for the brigade and other units on Fort Hood to build team morale and, of course, play some football.

The first game was the noncommissioned officers and Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 44th ADA Regiment, 69th ADA Bde., against the NCOs and Soldiers from the 4th Battalion, 5th ADA Regt., 69th ADA Bde.

1-44 ADA started out with a bang after a 4-5 ADA turn-over. 1-44 ADA's Staff Sgt. Marin scored the first touchdown, but the extra point was missed. 4-5 ADA answered back after inching their way to the goal line to score a touchdown, and after making the extra point, they took the lead at the half.

After the half, the game started to pick up intensity as both teams battled to take the lead. After another touchdown by 1-44 ADA and an interception that lead to a touchdown, the game was over with 1-44 ADA winning 24 to 7.

The Turkey Bowl trophy was presented to 1-44 ADA by Col. James H. Jenkins, the 69th ADA Bde. commander, in front of the crowded stadium.

"It was a combined effort from everybody, but the practices in the morning were the key to victory," said 1st Sgt. Wilson, the coach of the 1-44 ADA Turkey Bowl Team.

Though the first game was in the books, there was still more football to take place.

69th ADA Bde. and 41st Fires Bde. took the field to play the next game. This was a highly anticipated game that didn't disappoint. 41st Fires set the tone by scoring the first touchdown early in the game and showed 69th ADA that they were there to win. Just before the half, 69th ADA scored a touchdown with a 40 yard pass to tie the game 6 to

6. After the half, the teams continued to keep the game interesting by keeping it close throughout the second half. 69th ADA came out victorious with a final score of 18 to 13.

Lt. Gen. Robert W. Cone, the III Corps commanding general, made an appearance at the game to present the trophy to 69th ADA.

Cone made a short speech about the game and how he remembered playing against air defenders in his last Turkey Bowl.