



For Immediate Release  
By: Major Guy Hayes

June 30, 2009

## **Alaska Air National Guard Wins Inaugural Hero Games**

### **Photo Cutline's:**

#### **AirGuardians**

The Air Guardians of the Alaska Air National Guard (right) race the Anchorage Fire Department in the final heat of the litter carry event during the inaugural Hero Games. The Hero Games was put together by members of the military and the Anchorage Downtown Partnership to recognize first responders and military personnel. The competition tested skill, agility, strength, speed and a sense of humor during the 50th statehood celebration in Anchorage, Alaska June 27. Participants included 12 teams represented by Anchorage Police, Anchorage Fire Department, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Air Force, Air Force Reserve, U.S. Army, Alaska Army National Guard, Alaska Air National Guard, Alaska Medical Support and Airport Fire and Police. The Alaska Air National Guard won the litter carry event and was also the Hero Games overall champions. Photo by Major Guy Hayes, Alaska National Guard public affairs.

#### **AKArmyGuard**

Members of The Alaska Army National Guard look on during the tug-of-war event during the Hero Games. The Alaska Army National Guard finished third overall in the final standings of the Hero Games winning the obstacle course and bucket brigade/vehicle tow. Photo by Major Guy Hayes, Alaska National Guard public affairs.

#### **Nietotricyclerace**

Warrant Officer Mark Nieto carefully peddles his tricycle down 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Anchorage, Alaska while competing during the Hero Games on 27 June. The inaugural Hero Games' six overall events included the obstacle course, water balloon volleyball, tricycle race, tug-of-war, litter carry, and bucket brigade/vehicle tow. Photo by Major Guy Hayes, Alaska National Guard public affairs.

**Pararescue**

The Air Guardians of the Alaska Air National Guard race down 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Anchorage, Alaska during the litter carry event of the inaugural Hero Games. The Alaska Air National Guard won the litter carry event and was also the Hero Games overall champions. Photo by Major Guy Hayes, Alaska National Guard public affairs.

**Trudellobstaclecourse**

Captain Tracy “Trace” Trudell raises his arms in victory after winning his heat during the obstacle course event of the inaugural Hero Games. The Alaska Army National Guard went on to win the event and took third overall during the competition. Photo by Major Guy Hayes, Alaska National Guard public affairs.

**Donut**

Airman 1st Class Bryan Lowen, pararescue trainee for the Alaska Air National Guards 212<sup>th</sup> Rescue Squadron, eats a donut during the obstacle course portion of the Hero Games. Lowen had to eat a donut and whistle before changing a tire during the competition. Photo by Major Guy Hayes, Alaska National Guard public affairs.