



U.S. Army Lieutenant Col. Don Vtipil ('84), a JMU ROTC program graduate, served in Tikrit, Iraq, but didn't forget Madison while he was there.

His home station is Fort Lee, Va. Read about his, and many other JMU alums' experiences in Iraq, when the Operation Purple Pride Web page debuts in August.

Operation Purple Pride - The views from the troops

If you're serving in Afghanistan or Iraq, you're making a special sacrifice, and that's news. Monty's the place to share your experiences with your classmates and the rest of the Madison community.

Whether you're interacting with the people of Iraq and Afghanistan, fighting insurgents, flying jets and helicopters, or supplying the troops from home, you have a story to tell. Operation Purple Pride welcomes personal diaries or journals, photos, quick news updates about you and other classmates, and background pieces that give context and understanding to what is shown on the news. Please share your special insights, those moments that make the sacrifice worth it, the triumphs and tragedies. News of your experience will enrich the Madison community.

Please email your queries, news, notes and photos to montpelier@jmu.edu.

