



Injured vet grateful for ADRS assistance

Marine Lance Cpl. Corey Webb had been in Iraq for two weeks when he was injured after his unit came under enemy fire. The Springville man sustained a broken collarbone and a leg injury that would later require amputation.

When he returned home, Webb tackled his recovery with the “cando” attitude that he had learned as a Marine.

He was a bit lost, though, when it came to returning to the workplace.

Prior to his deployment, the young man was preparing to begin work as a lineman for Alabama Power Co., but after his injury it was clear he wouldn't be able to perform the duties of that job. Despite that, he was determined to work with the company.

Alabama Power, a longtime customer of the department's Employer Services, referred Webb to ADRS for assistance in finding a place with the company.

Peggy Anderson, ADRS' statewide coordinator for employer development, and Kristie Grammer, a rehabilitation counselor and the department's V.A. liaison in the Birmingham area, worked diligently with Alabama Power to find a position for the young man.

He eventually was hired as a dispatcher in the company's appliance sales division.

Within a few months, he departed for the Anniston Army Depot, where he is a property management specialist.

Today, with VRS' support, the 25-year-old is pursuing a bachelor's degree at Jacksonville State University.

He's grateful for the assistance he has received through VRS, which he praises for being a "single point of contact."

"It's so much simpler," he said. "If I need anything, I know I can call VRS."

The Springville native said VR services are especially valuable to "career military," who might not be familiar with the intricacies of searching for employment.

"A lot of these guys who've never done anything but serve in the military don't know how to find a job," he said. "They don't know how to create a resume, set up interviews, or anything related to finding work. VRS gives them the tools they need to get back to work."