



BRINGING HOME THE BACON

Army veteran loves hauling livestock on the backroads of rural America.

BY LAURIE COWIN



Jesse Smith

Professional Livestock Transporter
Transervice Logistics Inc.,
CF Transport Division – Johnston, Iowa

Age: 30

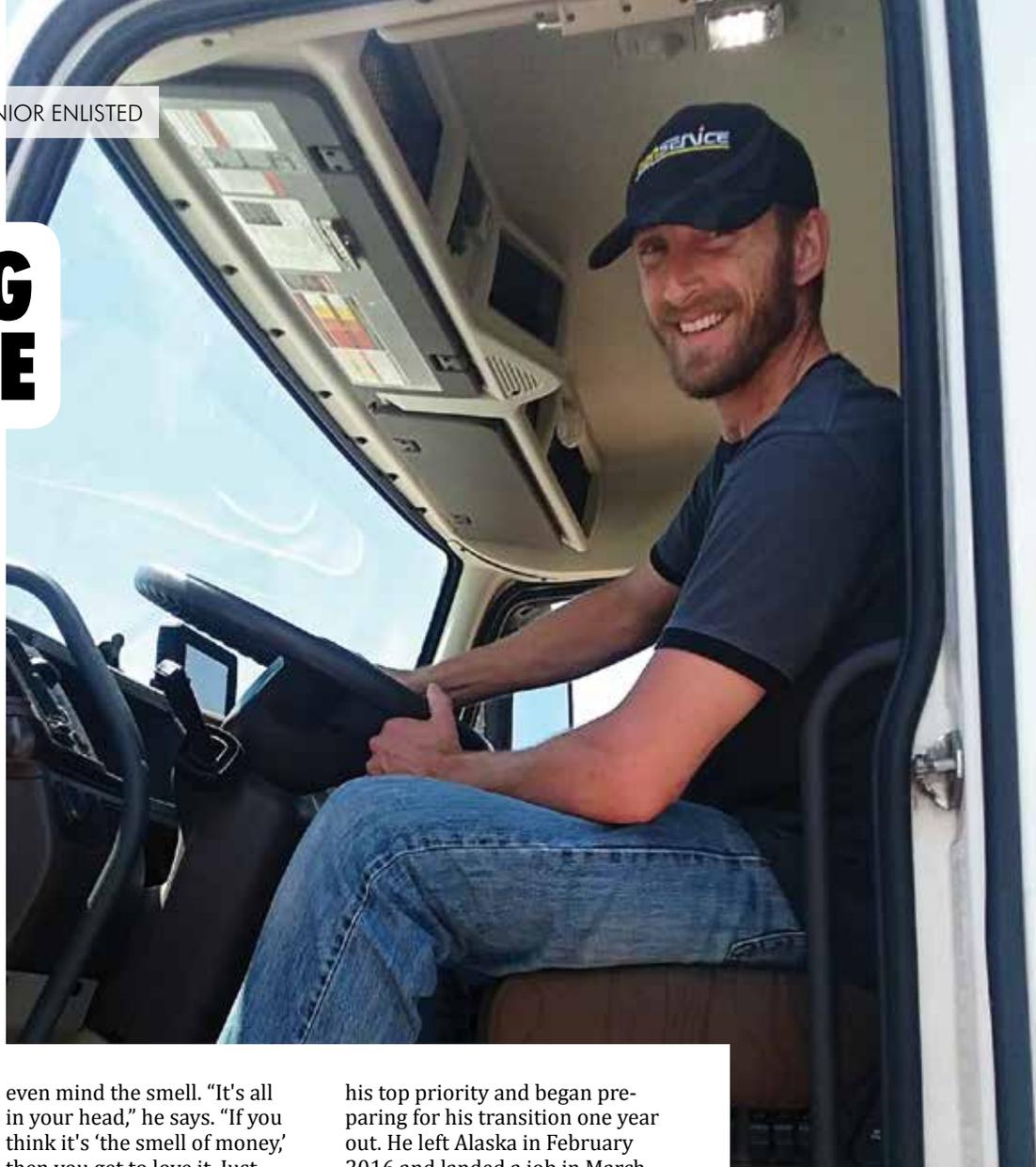
Military Service: Staff Sergeant (E-6),
Army (2006-2015)

MOS: Motor Transport Operator (88M3P8R)

OIF: 2007-2008, 2009-2010

OEF: 2012

Education: Commercial Driver's License (CDL)



even mind the smell. "It's all in your head," he says. "If you think it's 'the smell of money,' then you get to love it. Just make sure you wash or Lysol your hands before you eat."

AFGHANISTAN TO ALASKA. A native of Iowa, Smith enlisted in 2006 – continuing a long tradition of family military service. An Airborne School graduate, Smith learned how to drive trucks, train and lead soldiers during his enlistment. He deployed twice to Iraq and once to Afghanistan. His favorite duty station was Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson in Alaska. "Alaska is an absolutely beautiful state, and the mountains are breathtaking."

DOING WHAT HE LOVES. By 2015 Smith wanted to make his family

his top priority and began preparing for his transition one year out. He left Alaska in February 2016 and landed a job in March as a transportation supervisor in Iowa. In November 2016 he took the job doing what he loves: Driving.

ON THE ROAD AGAIN. These days Smith works about 55 hours each week, working six nights a week. He loves seeing the sun set or rise on the back roads of Iowa from the cab of his truck. "I love driving big trucks on little back gravel roads, as it is challenging," he says. "But you have to be careful as it can get tight and treacherous, especially on unplowed snowy roads."

DO THIS. "Save up as many leave days as possible before you get out so you have income," Smith says. "This will ensure you can pay your bills while you job search and start your new career"

WE HAD TO ASK!

Childhood Hero? Dale Earnhardt Sr.
Favorite athlete? Dale Earnhardt Jr.
Hobbies? Going for Harley rides.
Favorite reality show?
"American Ninja Warrior"
Top thing on "bucket list"?
To fly a plane.
Favorite sandwich, plus fixings:
Toasted PB&J
Childhood dream job? Race car driver
Exercise you hate most?
The V-up (hurts my tail bone)
The world would be better without:
TV. It consumes all of peoples' free time.
Most memorable fashion mistake?
Bleaching hair blonde