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Top grunts take EIBs

Sky Soldiers earn Expert Infantry Badge

Story and photos by
Spc. Gregory Argentieri
173rd ABCT Public Affairs



Staff Sgt. Stephen J. Obert, HHC, 1-503rd, 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team, is close to earning his coveted Expert Infantryman's Badge after three deployments and nearly eight years in the Army.

VICENZA, Italy - Ever since its creation in October, 1943, when one hundred Soldiers were vying to be one of the first to earn the Expert Infantryman's Badge, and only one walked away successful, all infantrymen dream of the day that they will earn the coveted badge.

After a series of prerequisites, weeks of training and a battery of graded tests on infantry skills 126 out of 450, Sky Soldiers from Germany and Italy received their EIBs at a ceremony Jan. 30 at the post theater on Caserma Ederle.

A special group of 19 Soldiers known as the "True Blue" completed the course without a single retest or "No-Go". Soldiers are permitted two No-Gos for the entire EIB course, which consisted of 18 stations and more than 30 sub-stations. Soldiers who receive two No-Gos are called "Blade Runners" because they must walk a fine line to finish the EIB course.

Historically the EIB test pass rate is between 5 -10 percent. The 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team had a pass rate

of 28 percent.

173rd ABCT command sergeant major, Command Sgt. Maj. Nicholas A. Rolling addressed the standing room only crowd at the post theater before presenting the EIBs.

"Today is a special day in awarding the EIB badge, but this did not happen in one day or week, it began three months ago with hundreds of hours of planning. Nothing was easy," said Rolling. "The instructors spent over 12 hours a day, every day for several weeks in the

snow, ice and freezing rain, with only a few days of sunlight."

Twenty-five years of Army experience helped first timer 1st Sgt. Buss L. Wood, HHC, 1-503rd, earn his EIB.

"With all the prerequisites it was probably a month, with a lot of mud, a lot of getting wet. I tell you I couldn't be prouder, it was very good training," said Wood.

Soldiers had to complete the prerequisites which included a timed 12-mile ruck-march, a PT test with a higher standard than the Army standard, firing expert on a weapon, and completing a day and night land navigation course.

Eight year veteran, Staff Sgt. Stephen J. Obert, HHC, 1-503rd, has been selected to attend Special Forces training starting in March, so this was his last opportunity as a prior No-Go to redeem himself.

"In 2004, I tied for the EIB and failed it because of the hand grenades. This time I got a little red ink on call for fire, I made a simple mistake and it made the whole experience a little more intense," said Obert. "Personally it just feels really good to earn it, it's always been a goal of mine to earn EIB, and I am just really glad and fortunate that I did."

A paratrooper readies a hand grenade for the 25-meter target during the Expert Infantryman's Badge training Jan. 28. The grenade must land within five meters of its target or Soldiers receive a "No-Go."



The Noncommissioned Officer
PATTERNS OF SUCCESS



1st Sgt. Katrina Burnett

Unit: HSC, SETAF, U.S. Army Africa

Current Position: First Sergeant

Age: 39

Hometown: Louisville, Kentucky

Years in Service: 21 years

Mentor: Sgts. Maj. Diggs & Sturdivant, they were the first female first sergeants I had encountered. They were not only my professional role models, but also my spiritual role models. They were tough, but fair and they were and still are the standard bearers for the Army.

Ambition: To set a good example for my sons and daughter. When they look at me, I want them to see how and what a woman is suppose to be - God fearing, strong yet loving.

Definition of an NCO: Total Soldier, one who is technically and tactically proficient. A leader who is physically fit, mentally tough and will have your back on the battlefield.

Advice for junior enlisted Soldiers: Set your goals high and stretch to reach them. Nothing is out of arms' reach.

Your defining moment as an NCO: When I was a Drill Sergeant and I trained my first platoon of civilians and made them Soldiers. It was seeing all that they had been through - their motivation, dedication and desire to be a Soldier.

VISIT THE ARMY'S WEB SITE DEDICATED TO THE YEAR OF THE NCO AT WWW4.ARMY.MIL/YEAROFTHE NCO

Source: SETAF PAO

OUTLOOKgraphics

“Tell me a story” hit with local families

Story and photo by
Betty Philips
Special to the Outlook

On Jan.31 the community joined together in the post chapel activity room to hear Maj. Gen. William B. Garrett III, commander SETAF/U.S. Army Africa, read a story about a little girl called Mercedes and an Air Force pilot, Col. Gail Halvorsen. Halvorsen became known as the Chocolate Pilot during the Berlin airlift.

This special event called “Tell me a story” was created by the Military Child Education Coalition and hosted by the

Vicenza Parent to Parent Team, with the help of many community volunteers and funds from several post organizations. Eighty children and their parents attended the event where they received a complimentary copy of the book *Mercedes and the Chocolate Pilot*, written by Margot Theis Raven.

Following the reading, the group divided into small groups where families brainstormed about ways to help others. Every child made a handkerchief parachute and then each family had their book signed by Maj. Gen. Garrett. The children were encouraged to write letters to be



Maj. Gen. William Garrett III, commander SETAF-U.S. Army Africa, signs copies of *Mercedes and the Chocolate Pilot* for local children.

sent to Halvorsen with ideas of how they could help others in our community.

The event was to empower military children through

literature and their own stories to fosters skills for resilience, peer and parent connections, a sense of accomplishment, and a caring community.



Army IG checks out Caserma

Lt. Gen. R. Steven Whitcomb (center), the Dept. of the Army Inspector General, speaks with 1st Lt. Ian MacGregor (left) and Spc. Jonathan Constancio from 2-503rd Infantry (Airborne) during a break from their Combatives Level II training. Whitcomb visited Caserma Ederle Feb. 2-3 to gain a better understanding of SETAF-U.S. Army Africa, USAG-V, and tenant units; conduct unit training and readiness assessments; and check on the health, welfare, and morale of leaders and Soldiers. The itinerary included two sessions with enlisted personnel from across the installation and toured facilities on Caserma Ederle and Dal Molin. (Photo by Sgt. Maj. Kimberly Williams, SETAF Public Affairs)

Being safe at Carnevale

Carnevale is coming. The festivities run from Feb.13-24, making Venice one of the top tourist destinations throughout Europe. If you plan to visit Venice and partake in the fun and festivities, keep safety at the forefront. Here are some tips that can help keep the fun safe.

- * Hotels will be at a premium. If you don't already have a reservation, you probably won't get one, so have a plan before you go and know where you and your friends will sleep.
 - * Have a transportation plan; remember public transportation will be busy. "Whoever is the less drunk will drive" is not a plan.
 - * Carnevale is not child friendly. It may be more efficient and safer to use a child carrying backpack rather than a stroller.
 - * Dress for the weather, and expect cold and rain.
 - * Keep valuables in hard to get to places.
 - * Watch your footing, Venice can have slick walkways.
 - * Use the buddy system and stay close to your group; there is usually safety in numbers.
 - * Have emergency numbers and contacts stored on your phone.
 - * The costumes and masks can hinder your vision, so go slowly.
- ITR has several trips worth checking out. Keep safety in mind and you can have the Venetian experience of a lifetime without the hassles. For more information call the safety office at 634-7045.

Speak Out

What do you consider the ideal Valentine's Day gift?

-By **Laura Kreider**
Outlook Staff



Sgt. John Gonzalez
HHC, 2-503rd

“Maybe a sponge bath from my wife.”



Candy Hernandez and Gaby Munoz
Students

“I think its amazing when I get something personal.” “I like cards as I can keep them forever.”



Amanda, Grady and Gunnar D'Hondt
Family members

“A date night without the kids.”



Chaplain (Maj.) Kelly Porter
USAG Livorno

“To know I am truly loved by my wife.”



Pete Huller
DPTMS

“The best gift I could get would be a full day with my wonderful wife.”

Work-at-home scams

By Kent Thompson
USAG Vicenza
Financial Readiness
Program manager



Consumers need to be vigilant when seeking employment online. The IC3 continues to receive numerous complaints from individuals who have fallen victim to work-at-home scams.

Victims are often hired to "process payments," "transfer funds," or "reship products." These job scams involve the victims receiving and cashing fraudulent checks, transferring illegally obtained funds for the criminals, or receiving stolen merchandise and shipping it to the criminals.

Other victims sign up to be a "mystery shopper," receiving

fraudulent checks with instructions to cash the checks and wire the funds to "test" a company's services. Victims are told they will be compensated with a portion of the merchandise or funds.

Work-at-home schemes attract otherwise innocent individuals, causing them to become part of criminal schemes without realizing they are

engaging in illegal behavior.

Job scams often provide criminals the opportunity to commit identity theft when victims provide their personal information, sometimes even bank account information, to their potential "employer."

The criminal employer can then use the victim's information to open credit cards, post on-line auctions and register websites, in the victim's name to commit additional crimes.

If you have been a victim of internet crime, file a complaint at www.ic3.gov.

ACS FRP note: AAFES also has a "mystery shopper" program. It is important to note that AAFES' mystery shopper program is not a scam.

For more information call ACS FRP at: 634-8634.



Vicenza Middle School students trudge through the snow of the Italian Alps in snowshoes as part of outdoor education.

Hiking Dolomite

Story and photo by
Darin Robinson
Special to the Outlook

It was snowing as the VMS Outdoor Education class came over the edge of the Dolomites and pulled onto the snow covered gravel road that led to the fields and wooded hills on which they would soon be traveling. Students hurriedly put on their boots and began the short trek up to the snowshoeing area.

When they reached deep snow each student helped another strap on their snowshoes. Then it was time to get a bit of practice walking in, what could be equated to "really big feet." Soon all the students were slogging along the trail as snow continued to float down from the sky. Now it was time to dig in and climb some hills so that each student could use all the training that they received while carrying their packs and hiking each day in their outdoor education class.

When the woods were reached, Chris Wolf from Outdoor Recreation led the students into the trees to an area for a snack and do a little "post-holing" without their snowshoes on. After some nutrition and fun in the snow, the students once again donned their snowshoes and headed back the way they came, ending their adventure with a bit of thick, Italian hot chocolate at a local *refugio*.

Don't miss your flight

Traveling space available from visa waiver country

Military dependents from visa-waiver countries are allowed to travel space available on military aircraft to the U.S. and may be admitted as visitors to the U.S. under the visa waiver program (VWP).

VWP military dependents are required to have in their possession:

- A valid passport from their visa-waiver country.
- A military dependent identification card issued by the U.S. military department of their sponsor, i.e., U.S. Army.
- An approved travel authorization via the Electronic System for Travel Authorization (ESTA).

The sponsor must accompany

them and should have:

- If active duty, orders or leave papers from their command.
- If retired, a military retired identification card.

The military dependent must not intend to immigrate while flying military space available. There are other documents required for such cases and immigrating military dependents must arrive at a Custom and Border Protection (CBP) Port of Entry where they can be processed as immigrants. Military bases are not equipped to process such cases.

Military dependents should note that an approved ESTA is not a guarantee of admissibility to the U.S. at a port of entry. In all cases, CBP officers make admissibility determinations at U.S. ports of entry or pre-clearance facilities.

To record their departure



from the United States, the traveler should surrender their I-94 to a CBP representative, if available. If no representative is available, mail the I-94 along with the supporting documents such as boarding pass and keeping a copy for their records to:

DHS - CBP SBU
1084 South Laurel Road
London, KY 40744

For more information call the passport office at 634-7721.

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At your service

CTC Europe field representative

Avonne Rosario is a Central Texas College Europe field representative at the Vicenza education center on Caserma Ederle.

"As the field representative I help students enroll for courses, choose degree plans, get official evaluations and transcripts and answer financial aid questions," said Rosario.

"I also recruit faculty members for on-site classes and deployed positions," she added.

Rosario can be found in the Education Center, 2nd Floor, Room 206. Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - noon and 1-4 p.m. Call 634-5414 or email vicenza@europe.ctcd.edu.



Avonne Rosario
CTC Europe field rep

Community events

Tranquil alpine beauty of Merano

Story and photos by
Samantha Smith
Outlook Volunteer

For travelers looking for a great weekend destination a little off the beaten path, Merano, located in the beautiful South Tyrol region of Italy, fits the bill. Merano is an easy drive up the A-22 Autostrada toward Brennero. Expect to hear a lot of German spoken, as it's the mother tongue in this region.

With a long history as a spa resort, the town boasts a beautiful indoor/outdoor swimming complex right downtown called Terme Meran. Open weekdays 1-10 p.m. and weekends 9 a.m. - 10 p.m., adults pay 10-15 Euro and kids pay 7-10 Euro depending on the length of your stay. More information is available in English at www.termemerano.it. The baths also offer convenient underground parking.

Another treat downtown are the many walking paths along the Passirio River with several lovely bridges to stop and contemplate the view. The North side also boasts several cafes and *gelaterias* to stop and have a pick-me-up.

Take the chairlift from via Gallilei near the Castello Principesco up to Monte Benedetto and continue on foot past picturesque apple orchards until you get to the Castel Tirolo or Castle Tyrol. There is also a bus that runs along the main road if the walk proves too difficult. The Castle is open Mar. 13-Nov. 29, Tue.-Sun., 10 a.m. - 5 p.m. It is closed Mon., with two exceptions: April 13 and June 1 for the Italian holidays. Cost is 6 Euro per person or 12 Euro for a family of four. The views over the valley are magnificent and you can stop and have lunch along the way at one of the many restaurants with outdoor terraces.

Instead of taking the lift down, plan on walking along the *Passeggiata Tappeiner* (Tappeiner Promenade) and you will be rewarded with more views and a walking path that winds through a botanical garden on its way back down to Merano.

Accommodations can be a bit expensive, but there are bargains to be found if you stay outside of the downtown area. One such place is Hotel Gruberhof (www.hotelgruberhof.com), a comfortable spot within walking distance of downtown with prices from 38 Euro per person with breakfast. The hotel also



The spectacular view from the mountain side Tappeiner Promenade down across the valley floor towards the town of Merano.

offers dinners and has a nice swimming pool and relaxing backyard.

Or try www.meranerland.com for other reasonably priced hotels. Remember, star ratings in Italy don't necessarily refer to cleanliness or charm of a hotel,

but are a way for the government to determine the price range that a hotel can charge based on the services offered. With this in mind, a one or two-star hotel will sometimes fit the bill, and the pocketbook, just fine.

If you're looking for another

reason to visit the area, take a look at www.merano.info to see what kinds of events are happening in the area this year. Of note is the Traditional Haflinger horserace set for April 13 and the annual Jazz Festival, June 7-12.

To get to Merano, take the A-22 Autostrada in direction Brennero.

Exit the autostrada at Bolzano Sud and follow the signs for Merano. Pick up a free map of the area at the tourist office located at Corso Libertà 45 just across the bridge from the Piazza Terme or call them at 39-0473-272000.



(Far left, top) The Castle Tyrol dominates the hilltop above Merano. (Far left, bottom) The Passirio River flows through the valley and has a pleasant walkway along its banks. (Above) Children enjoy a refreshing drink from the well in the castle courtyard. (Left) The courtyard of the Castle Tyrol is fully accessible to enter.

Exploring diversity daily keeps community on its toes



By Joyce Costello

USAG Livorno Public Affairs

Command Sgt. Maj. Felix Rodriguez, the USAG Livorno Command Sgt. Maj., used his creativity and ingenuity to come up with a new way to help

educate the Camp Darby community about African-American Heritage Month. He decided to do a daily trivia question via e-mail to those on the Camp Darby e-mail distribution list with winners receiving small prizes donated from AAFES and DECA vendors.

"I thought in my mind- 'is there another medium that we could use to educate the whole community?'" said Rodriguez.

"My intent is to allow all of those working on Camp Darby to learn while they researched and at the same time give them a better appreciation for the African-American heritage."

Stacy Walker, who correctly identified Vernon Baker as an

answer to one day's trivia said she has used this opportunity to further educate her children.

"My son had to do a report for school and he wanted to do a report on Martin Luther King, Jr., along with the other 27 children in his class, but I insisted that he learn about some of the great men who served as Buffalo Soldiers, like Vernon Baker," said Walker.

During the Feb. 2, kick-off of African-American heritage month, USAG Livorno commander, Lt. Col. Steven Cade told gatherers that "these little nuggets of knowledge are a unique way to learn about history, where we came from and where we are today."

Rodriguez added that Cpt. Nathaniel Paschal from the Livorno Unit Health Clinic did all the research for the questions and the trivia challenge is open to all personnel with valid ID cards and authorized to purchase in the commissary and PX, but only once per day. Past winners may continue to participate.

Upon receipt of the daily challenge, bring written answers to the community mail room and place them in the designated cardboard box before 5 p.m. Make sure to add your name, e-

mail address and telephone number. Do not e-mail your answers or call AFN with your answers.

Answer sheets will be pulled at random, the first person with the correct answer is the winner and will be announced the next day. The winner will need to call 633-7505 upon notification.

Example question:

I was born in Washington in 1877, and first entered the military as a temporary first lieutenant on July 13, 1898, during the Spanish-American War. Mustered out in 1899, I enlisted as a private just six months later. Within two years, I was commissioned a second lieutenant of cavalry in the regular Army. My service as an officer with the famed Buffalo Soldiers regiment in the Philippines and on the Mexican border was exemplary. I became the first African American to be promoted to brigadier general in the U.S. Army and in the armed forces. Who am I?

To read past questions and answers, visit www.usag.livorno.army.mil and click on the African-American History Month banner.

Darby Dates

Dietician visiting Camp Darby

The dietician from the Vicenza Health Center will be available for appointments at the USAHC-Livorno on Feb. 19. For more information call 633-7357 for an appointment.

Single service member meal

Stop by, pick up a plate or eat in on Feb. 24. Contact ACS for details.

Saving and investing

Before you begin to invest, there are questions to ask and information to know. Class covers assessing liabilities vs. assets, budgeting basics and more on Feb. 26.

Call 633-7084 for details.

Interview skills training

Get tips on putting your best foot forward at this informative class on Feb. 27. Call ACS for details.

Story hour

Don't miss story hour every Wednesday at 10 a.m. for children ages 3 to 5.

Call the post library at 633-7623 for details.

Karaoke night

You can stop singing in the shower now, join the Darby community Club karaoke night and impress your friends on Feb. 26. Call 633-7855 for information.

Reintegration, relationships & PTSD

Find tips on how to better manage family relationships and dealing with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder following a deployment at this informative class on Feb. 18. Call 633-7084.

Army Family Team Building level 1

Level 1 training features military acronyms and terms, the chain of command and introduction to military customs and courtesies. Class is planned for Feb. 18.

For more information call 633-7084.

Camp Darby Out & About

Crazy about chocolate?

Chocolandia 2009 is a chocolate festival that will take place in Livorno Feb. 14-15 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. at the Cruise Terminal at Livorno Port. Producers from all over Italy will display their products. Classes on chocolate art and its coupling with foods and wines are on offer.

As part of the show, there will be a "Cioc Beauty Farm" where all the positive effects of chocolate on beauty will be highlighted. The cost of the ticket is 3 Euros.

It is easy to get to the show area just following the signs "imbarco traghetti" (ferry-boat embarkation).

For additional information contact SpazioEventi di Patrizia Noce at 347 6357063 or e-mail: www.spazio-eventi.it or info@spazio-eventi.it

Carnivals abound Carnevale di Viareggio trip

The Carnival of Viareggio is a yearly event held in the Tuscan city of Viareggio. It is considered among the most renowned carnival celebrations in Europe. The parade features floats and masks depicting caricatures of popular people. The parade is held on the Viareggio avenue located alongside the local beach. The ITR trip this year is Feb. 22.

Call ITR at 633-7589 for information.



Many Italian carnevale celebrations feature parades of floats and costumed revelers such as this one in Malo. (Photo by Laura Kreider, Outlook Staff)

Marlia (LU)

The Carnival in Marlia was established in 1904, it is one of the most popular carnival celebrations in Tuscany, it will take place Feb. 15, 22, and Mar. 1, from 2:30 p. m. to 6 p.m.

For information call Carneval Marlia at 0583 30416 or e-mail: www.carnevalmarlia.it.

Orentano (PI)

This is a special carnival for children, it is called the children's carnival, it was started by the local parish in 1956. This year's celebrations will be Feb. 15, 22, and 24 from 3 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

For information call Ente Carnevale dei bambini at: 0583 23462 or e-mail: www.orentanocarnevale.it.

Bientina (PI)

Bientina carnival is celebrated since 50 years, it includes, besides the traditional allegoric floats, also a little train loaded with children passengers riding around the town. The Carnival concludes with fireworks in the evening Feb 24. The calendar will be Feb. 15, 22, and 24 from 3 p.m. to 11 p.m.

For information call Associazione Carnevale Bientinese at: 333 6996091 or e-mail: URP@comune.bientina.pi.it.

Santa Croce (PI)

The carnival in Santa Croce will feature float parades Feb. 15, 19, and 22, from 3:30 p.m. The celebrations will include an exhibition on the history of the carnival tradition, and a photo contest. The best carnival related photo will be used for next year's carnival flyers.

For information call Santa Croce Municipality at: 0571 360592 or e-mail: www.carnevalessantacrocese.it.

Live in Love, Valentine's Day, Carnevale, concerts

Valentine's Day in Italy

This holiday is named after Saint Valentine. According to a legend, during classical Roman times, Emperor Claudius II decreed marriage forbidden for soldiers.

A priest named Valentine ignored this decree and encouraged young people to be united in holy matrimony. For this, he was sentenced to prison and executed on February 14, 273.

Legends vary on how the martyr's name became connected with romance: the date of his death may have become mingled with the feast of Lupercalia, a pagan festival of love, or with the ancient belief that birds first mate in the middle of February.

Modern Italy perceives Valentine's Day as a festivity imported from the USA like Halloween and Mother's Day.

This day is reserved exclusively for couples and lovers; family and friends do not take part or exchange gifts. However, for those who are in love this day is an important one to show their beloved how much they care.

In the evening couples usually go to dinner at a pizzeria or at a restaurant. Gifts could include red roses or perfume, diamonds, or the famous Baci Perugina. These chocolate-covered hazelnuts contain a small slip of paper with a romantic poetic quote in four different languages.

Valentine's Day in Venice, Feb. 14, starting at 7 p.m., Piazza San Marco. Live music, dances and fireworks.

Verona in Love, Feb. 14, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m., Piazza Dei Signori.

Un cuore da scoprire: a heart-shaped exhibition and market of romantic gift ideas, crafts. Live music and entertainment. "Light up your heart" show at 6:45 p.m. in Piazza dei Signori with live music and a waterfall of heart-shaped coriandoli (confetti).

Carnevale Float Parade, Feb. 15, 2 p.m., in Montecchio Maggiore, about 12 miles west of Vicenza, Via Matteotti Giacomo, 48. Games, food booths and live music.

Carnevale, Feb. 15, 3 p.m., in Malo, about 20 miles northwest of Vicenza. Float parade, live entertainment with the Malo's musical band and jugglers. Sports center, Piazza Zanini, 6 p.m., magic show and live music. Free entrance.

Carnevale in Venice:

Children's opening celebration, Feb. 14, 3 p.m., Piazza San Marco. Games, entertainment, and children costume contest.

Carnevale Party, Feb. 14, from 11 a.m. onwards, Sestiere di Cannaregio. Water Parade with the participation of the Venice Rowing club and the district's gastronomic specialties.

Dialogo al Buio (Dialogue in the dark) Carnival Party, Castello District, Feb. 14 -24, 11 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Based on the "Dialogo nel buio" exhibition, it is held totally in the dark to intensify all the senses, especially touch. It offers a completely new "in the dark" experience in collaboration with the Milan Institute for the Blind. Admission fee: 5 euro.



A Heart to Discover is featured in the marketplace of the Piazza di Signori in Verona on Valentine's Day Feb. 14 along with romantic gifts, crafts and live music. (Photo courtesy Verona Tourist Board)

The angel's flight, Feb. 15, noon, Piazza San Marco. Ancient tradition with a guest-star who "flies" from the Torre del Campanile reaching the ground, immediately followed by the Venice historical parade.

La Festa delle Marie, Feb. 15, 3 p.m. Seven Venetian girls parade accompanied by historical traditional groups from San Pietro di Castello to Piazza

San Marco. The prize for the winning "Maria" will be awarded on Feb. 24.

Period Costume Festival, Feb. 15, starts at 3 p.m., Piazza San Marco. Period Costumes parade, dances, theatrical performances.

For detailed information in English about Venice "Sensation - 2009 Carnevale" visit <http://www.carnevale.venezia.it/>.

Free concerts, exhibits and classes:

Sarah a chuster live@Birraccrua, Feb. 12, 9:30 p.m., in Vicenza, Birrificio Birraccrua, Strada Vicinale Monte Crocetta, 6. Live rock music.

The Black Atlantic + Kim Janssen, Indie Pop from Netherlands, Feb. 12, 9 p.m., in Vicenza, Bar Sartea, Corso San Felice.

Piano Concert with Conservatory Students, Feb. 14, 5 p.m., in Vicenza, Santa Chiara Chapel, Contrà Santa Chiara.

Imagine Peace - Painting Exhibition, Feb. 15 - March 8; 10:30 a.m. - 1 p.m and 3 p.m. - 7 p.m.; closed on Monday in Vicenza, Casa Cogolio, Corso Palladio 165.

Acoustic Spirit Duo, Feb. 15, 9:30 p.m., in Vicenza, Birrificio Birraccrua, Strada Vicinale Monte Crocetta, 6.

Explore the sky, Astronomical Observatory of Arcugnano, Feb. 17, 8:30 p.m., Via S. Giustina, 127 - about five miles south of Vicenza. View the sky and the planets in great detail with their telescope.

Universal Experience Jazz not Dead Festival 2009, Feb. 17, 9 p.m., in Vicenza, Bar Sartea, Corso SS Felice.

Movies in English

Feb. 16, The day the earth stood still plays at the Odeon Theater in downtown Vicenza, Corso Palladio, 176. Tickets: 6 euro. Times: 5 p.m., 7 p.m., and 9 p.m. For the schedule of movies go to the web site, visit www.mymovies.it/cinema/vicenza/6217/.

Snow, hill towns, wine with ITR/ODR



Hit the fresh powder in the Dolomite with ODR.

Ski trips

Every weekend ODR takes you to the slopes so call ODR for information on equipment and fees at 634-7453.

Trip to Tuscany

Visit the hill towns of Siena, San Gimignano and

Monteriggioni with iTR! Trips on Feb 28. Siena is Italy's most preserved medieval town with many outstanding works of art and architecture. San Gimignano and Monteriggioni are both walled cities with 13th century charm. Call 634-7094 for reservations.

Wine down Wednesday

iTR! Trips next wine down Wednesday trip is to the Berici hills to taste cabernet. On Feb 25, 8:15 a.m. -2:30 p.m., you will learn more about this dark ruby wine with an intense and slightly tannic taste. Call 634-7094 to make reservations.

Now Showing

Ederle Theater

Feb. 12	Australia (PG-13)	6 p.m.
Feb. 13	Nothing Like the Holidays (PG-13)	6 p.m.
	Four Christmases (PG-13)	9 p.m.
Feb. 14	He's Just Not That Into You (PG-13)	3 p.m.
	The Day the Earth Stood Still (PG-13)	6 p.m.
Feb. 15	He's Just Not That Into You (PG-13)	2 p.m.
	Four Christmases (PG-13)	6 p.m.
Feb. 18	Nothing Like the Holidays (PG-13)	6 p.m.

Camp Darby Theater

Feb. 12	Punisher: War Zone (R)	6 p.m.
Feb. 13	Glory Road (PG)	6 p.m.
Feb. 14	Australia (PG-13)	6 p.m.
Feb. 15	Paul Bart: Mall Cop (PG) (1st Run)	2 p.m.

Admission: Age 12 and over \$4, under age 12, \$2.

The Ederle Theatre box office opens one hour prior to show time.

Looking for the movie synopsis? Check out the AAFES Web site: www.aafes.com, scroll to the bottom of the page and click on Movie Schedule.

Looking to buy or sell items? Check out MWR's Marketplace at www.mwrmarketplace.com.

Parent Child Dance

DFMWR will host the Parent Child Dinner and Dance at Club VSaturday, Feb. 21. Dinner starts at 6p.m. with dancing to follow. There will also be free giveaways and photo opportunities. Enjoy a special night out with your children. Ticket costs adult \$19 and children \$14. Tickets are on sale at all CYS locations and Tax Relief Office. Call for more info DSN: 634-5087.

Road closure

Phase 2 electrical construction will take place on post through Feb. 28. This is the last phase of the medium voltage underground conduit to support the new construction of the Enhanced Health Services Center.

During this construction there will be no parking along 8th St. next to Barracks B-170 and the 509th B-131.

Access to the Towers will be limited to pedestrian only during this time.

There will be limited vehicular access to the Ed Center and 14th Trans. via a single lane - alternating in direction controlled by traffic lights.

CDC training

On Friday, Feb. 13 the CDC 398 will be closed so that staff may conduct training. All children normally cared for in CDC 398 will be provided care at CDC 395 which operates 6 a.m.-6 p.m. For additional information contact Michelle Sterkowicz at 634-5008 or Luca Harbeson at 634-8433.

Valentine's Day dinner

DFMWR will provide free transportation for couples Valentine's Day dinner at Sette Santi, Feb. 14, 7 p.m. Two menu options are available for 25 Euro and the ladies will receive a rose. The bus will depart at 6:30 p.m. Child care can be arranged with CYSS Parents Night Out at the Central Registration office. Reservations for dinner must be made at ITR before Feb. 5.

Health Clinic hours

The health clinic is open Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m., closed Thursdays at 2 p.m. for training.

Medical sick call is by appointment, call 634-7484.

President's Day schedule:

Feb. 13 – Closed

Feb. 14 – 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Feb. 15 – Closed

Feb. 16 – Closed

You can make medical appointments on-line. Register with TRICARE on www. Tricareonline.com.

For technical questions you can call 001-800-600-9332 or stop by the TRICARE office. Call the nurse advice line at 800-87-7660. The call must be made from Italy, and is toll free.

Red Cross events

Babysitter's training is Feb. 21 - 9 a.m.-4 p.m. in Davis Soldier & Family Readiness Center, bldg 108.

Pre-registration is required for all classes. Call the American Red Cross at 634-7089 or 0444-71-7089 for details.

Now hiring

University of Phoenix is now hiring adjunct faculty in Vicenza for the MBA and MAED programs. Qualified candidates must have a MAED or MBA (or related degree) and 5-plus years of professional experience in a related field.

For more information or to submit a resume, contact Diana Frayne via e-mail at: dfrayne11@email.phoenix.edu.

Valentine's Day at the Arena

Adults compete for a dream date in the Lion's Den version of the Dating Game at Feb. 14, 9 p.m. Then find out how well our married couples know each other in the Arena's version of the Newly Wed Game at 10 p.m. in the Lion's Den. Couples also can enjoy bowling where hourly rates will apply and the ladies receive a small gift.

Virginia Coalition performs

Armed Forces Entertainment presents Virginia Coalition on Feb. 16, 8 p.m. at the Arena. "Home This Year" is their new album and that is where they hope to take you. Their concerts are known for high energy and connecting with the audience. This is one concert that will take you home, at least for an hour or two.

CYS Services

SKIESUnlimited has openings in Tae Kwon Do, Capoeira and Creative Acting classes. Tae Kwon Do teaches a mixture of balance, self-defense and discipline. Beginner's class is on Mondays and Wednesdays from 3:30-4:30 p.m. for beginners. Advanced class is available for students who have obtained their yellow belts and is held Mondays and Wednesdays from 4:30-5:30 p.m.

Kyla Hallam stands beside the pool with her chestful of medals after the European Forces Swim League Championship in Berlin. (Photo by Dave Hallam)



Sharks score in Berlin

The Vicenza Mako Sharks joined a multi-cultural event in historical Berlin which hosted the 2009 European Forces Swim League (EFSL) Championship. After a two year hiatus, the Mako Sharks took the European swim championship by storm in an Olympic facility in the former East Berlin. Swimmers Jonathan Bowman, Chris Unger, Rima Gasparini and Kyla Hallam, collectively dropped 44 seconds from their times, unheard of for an end of season competition. The hero though was 9-year-old Kyla Hallam, who earned one 1st place medal, one 2nd place medal, two 3rd place medals and one 6th place medal. Rima, is in her first year of competitive swimming. If your child is interested in competitive swimming, contact Coach Tiffany at coachmakosharks@gmail.com.

Capoiera is Brazilian martial arts and incorporates music, movement and games and is held on Tuesdays and Fridays from 3:30-4:30 p.m. for youth 5 years and older.

Creative Acting will build skills in improvisation, vocalization, monologue writing and movement. This session will run March 11-May 6 and will be held Wednesdays from 3:30-4:30 p.m. It is open to youth 12-18 years old. Students will have the opportunity to participate in the SKIES Spring Recital in May.

For more information on these classes and more SKIES programs call Kelli Covlin at 634-8051 or email SKIES@vicenzamwr.com. To register, stop by CYS Services Central Registration in the Davis Soldier and Family Readiness Center

NCO induction

A Year of the NCO Induction Ceremony will take place at 2 p.m. Feb. 17 at the post theater. The ceremony will include a brief history of the NCO Corps and inductions of Soldiers recently promoted to sergeant. The ceremony is open to the public.

Transport tech needed

Position: Transportation technician (OA), YB-2102-02, full-time.

Location: DoDDS Mediterranean District superintendent's office, Vicenza, Italy.

Opening date: Feb. 9.

Closing date: Feb. 23.

For more information go to: <http://www.opm.gov/fedclass/html/gsseries.asp> or call Rusty

Rollins at (39) 0444-71-8158 or DSN 634-8158 or e-mail rusty.rollins@eu.dodea.edu.

USO events

Valentines Day poem contest. Submit an original poem of any style and any length to the USO by Feb. 12 about the one you love the most. The top poem selected will receive a prize.

Level One Italian class is being offered from Feb. 23 to April 22. The classes will be held Monday's and Wednesday's from 5:45-7:45 p.m. at the Education Center.

Course cost is \$118 plus 11 Euro for the book. Sign up at the USO.

RockBand 2 is now at the USO. Come out and show us your skills on our new drum set and wireless guitars.

The USO is located in bldg. 9A. Hours are Monday- Friday 11a.m. - 10p.m. and Saturday and Sunday non - 6p.m. For info call the USO at 634-7156.

VCC Poker Club

The first meeting of the Vicenza Community Club's "Evening Poker Club" will be on Feb. 18 at 7 p.m. at the Arena. If you are interested in playing, please email Rich Breen at richard.breen@us.army.mil or call 331-867-4676.

Ceramics studio

The art center offers open sessions every Thursday 10 a.m. -5 p.m. Just drop in and pay by the hour. This session is open to beginners, hobbyists and parent child pairs. Call 634-7074 for more information.

Religious activities

Caserma Ederle Chapel

Call the chapel at 634-7519 (0444-71-7519) for details on post religious activities.

Chaplain Crisis Line:

To speak with a chaplain after hours call **634-KARE** (634-5273).

Saturday services

4 p.m.: Sacrament of Reconciliation, or by appointment.

5 p.m.: Vigil Mass

Sunday Services

9 a.m.: Roman Catholic Mass
Mass is held weekdays at noon.

9 a.m.: Protestant Sunday school and AWANAs (Sept. through May in Vicenza High School)

10:45 a.m.: Catholic religious education (Sept.-May in Vicenza High School)

11 a.m.: Protestant worship

1:30 p.m.: Full Gospel Pentecostal worship

4 p.m.: Lutheran worship

6 p.m.: Contemporary Christian worship

Monday

Noon: LDS Scripture Study
3:05 p.m.: Middle School Club in the high school cafeteria. (October -May)

5:30 p.m.: High School Club in the Teen Center. (October-May)

For details contact Jocelyn Cary at 634-7890 or 349-385-3476 or vicecb@yahoo.com.

Tuesday

9:15 a.m.: Protestant Women of the Chapel

Wednesday

Noon: Protestant Men of the Chapel Bible study (at DFAC)

5:30 p.m.: PWOC evening Bible study

Thursday

9:30 a.m.: Catholic Women of the Chapel

5:30 p.m.: Gospel service choir rehearsal

7:15 p.m.: Gospel service Bible study

Faith group contacts

Islamic: Mohamed Noeman at 634-6306.

Jewish: Sandy Schoenberg at 634-6202 or sandy.schoenberg@eur.army.mil.

Latter Day Saints (LDS): Scripture study is held each Monday, noon-1 p.m. at the Chapel. Sunday services, 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. downtown. For details, call Sean Peterson, 335-8219492.

Darby Chapel

For details call the chapel at: 633-7267 (50-54-7267).

9:40 a.m.: Catholic

Reconciliation

10 a.m.: Catholic Mass

11:15 a.m.: Protestant worship

Protestant Sunday school starts at 9:45 a.m.

Catholic CCD is at 11:15 a.m.

All briefs must be received at editor@eur.army.mil noon Monday, or by Friday at 4 p.m. if Monday is a holiday.

Soldier's league basketball back

Story and photos by
Laura Kreider
Outlook Staff

After a two-week break due to some renovations at the post gym, the Soldiers' basketball league restarted this past week with games on Monday and Wednesday nights.

The Unbeatables met and defeated The Mix by two points on Feb. 4.

"As a team, we have played and won a couple of times and lost a couple of times. Tonight, we didn't give up and we kept playing", said Richard Anderson, of the 106th Finance, who plays with the Unbeatables.

"I come to the gym and shoot every day, twice a week as a team because I love basketball, I used to play while in college," said Anderson.

"Everybody on the team has fun, especially in close games like this with a two-point difference final score," he added.

From the point of view of the other team, Adolph Dubose, No. 8 for The Mix and a member of the 509th Signal Battalion, observed that his team needs more practice playing together.

"We had a better team," said Dubose, "but we don't have much time to practice because we have a busy schedule. We have been playing only a couple times together.

"Definitely, if we have more time to practice and build teamwork, we are going to win next time," he highlighted.



(Above) Hilliard Ladd, No. 11, of the Mix, releases a short jump shot against The Unbeatables' No. 8, Michael Dickey. (Below) Richard Anderson, No. 3 of The Unbeatables adds two points with a layup although surrounded by his opponent's defense during the game.



(Above) The Unbeatables' Luis Santos, No. 10 goes for a loose ball as Adolph Dubose, No. 8, from The Mix tries to reach it as well during Wednesday's game played at the post gym.



Vicenza military community Soldier's basketball

Team	Win	Loss
Certified	5	0
HSC SETAF	1	5
Unbeatables	5	2
14th Trans.	2	4
The Mix	0	2

Soldier's league basketball scores

Feb. 2

Certified 69 vs The Mix 46
 Unbeatables 68 vs 14th Trans 52

Feb. 4

Unbeatable 51 vs The Mix 49
 Certified 93 vs SETAF 34

USAG Vicenza community soccer

Team standings

Win	Tie	Loss
2	2	6

Latest scores

Jan. 31

Perlena Calcio 2 vs USAG 1

Feb. 7

Piovene Rocchetta 1 vs USAG 0

VHS holds final home games



Shakael Skeete, Cougar No. 42, releases a jump shot around Aviano's Shakees Seaton.

(Below) Vicenza Cougars' No. 32, Rebecca Matheson, defends the ball against her opponent Aviano's No. 21, Alyssa Lane, and No. 4 Emily Cartwright. Final results for the girls' games: Friday, Aviano vs. Vicenza 63-16, Saturday 70-26. "The VHS boys' were up against one of the toughest teams in our division," said Angela West, VHS basketball boys coach assistant. "We were very proud that our team members did not give up throughout the game and kept playing hard until the end." Final results for the boys' games: Friday, Aviano vs. Vicenza 72-28, Saturday 77-35. (Photos by Laura Kreider, Outlook Staff)



Sports

Youth baseball and softball

Enrollment for baseball, ages 3-15, and softball for ages 10-15, continues through Feb. 27.

Parents should bring a health assessment valid through the season to Central Registration when registering. Call 634-6151 for additional information.

Little League umpires

CYS Services is offering a free Little League Umpire certification class on March 9-13, 6-9 p.m. for those interested in becoming a paid umpire.

CYS baseball clinic

CYS sports is holding a free baseball clinic for ages 10-18, Feb. 24-26, 3-5 p.m. at the Villaggio Field. Enroll before Feb. 20 by calling 634-6151.

High School volunteer coaches

Vicenza Middle/High School needs volunteers to help with fast-pitch women's softball (especially need a pitching coach) and track and field. Spring practice starts March 2.

Volunteers must be registered with ACS. Please contact the VHS Athletic Director Garrett Barton at 335-773-9710 or the high school main office at 634-7656.

Paintball

ODR is offering another paintball trip this month on Feb. 22. Transportation is \$10 and the field fee is 10 Euro.

You can rent equipment for an additional fee if you don't own your own. Call 634-7453 for information.

Indoor soccer tournament

USAG Vicenza indoor soccer tournament is Feb. 27-28. Teams should have a max of 7 players including the coaches.

The coaches meetings are Feb. 24, 2:30 or 5:30 p.m. at the Sports office. Bring your rosters to the meeting. Call 634-7009 for information.