



Airborne Soldiers jumpstart flying car

Story and photos

by Spc. Carmen Steinbach

107th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

HOHENFELS TRAINING AREA, Germany,—Nearly 100 Soldiers stood on a windy German hilltop for several minutes, watching their breath rise up over the tall grass.

Wrapped tight in black fleece coats and rubbing together gloved hands for warmth, they waited for the sounds of rumbling engines as the choppers made their descent.

Although they were tired and cold, the opportunity to have propellers swirl inches overhead while connecting a Humvee to a Blackhawk and watching it hover high above the countryside was too exciting to pass up.

“We’re pretty cold now,” said Sgt. Michael McCollough, “But a lot of adrenaline starts pumping when you get to it.”

McCollough is just one of the Soldiers from Alpha Company, 173d Airborne Brigade Combat Team, who will be spending the next few weeks at Hohenfels Training Area in Germany preparing for their upcoming deployment to Afghanistan.

As one of their training missions, the paratroopers participated in a sling-loading exercise today orchestrated by the Joint Multinational Readiness Center.

Throughout the daylong exercise, the Sky Soldiers from the combat support battalion trained at two different positions.

One shift was designated to be ground control, which was responsible for using hand and arm signals to land the helicopters. In a safety briefing prior to the training exercise, Staff Sgt. Taywan Jackson demonstrated all of the proper signals used to land, hook up, and move a Blackhawk helicopter during the sling-loading mission.

“All the soldiers will get a chance to both guide in an aircraft, and be on the back of the vehicle waiting for it to take off,” said Jackson.

While the ground crew safely landed the helicopter, three soldiers were stationed on the back of the Humvee to conduct a single-point hook up. In this maneuver, two soldiers are needed to stabilize the hook and connect it underneath the Blackhawk as it hovers above them. The third soldier, called the safety, checks the connection for reliability, and ensures that everyone exits the back of the Humvee quickly and safely.

1st Lt Tim Bragg, Alpha Company executive officer said the training was going well, despite the chilling weather.

“I think the troops are enjoying themselves,” he said. “Once the helicopters land, we’re going to have a lot of fun.”

In usual scenarios, Chinooks are commonly used for transporting Humvees, but in the training exercise, Blackhawks were more accessible. Also, even though Alpha Company is composed primarily of airborne-qualified soldiers, no aircraft training is required to participate in a sling loading exercise. The only requirement is a Pathfinder or Air-Assault qualified non-commissioned officer be present to provide the instruction.



Paratroopers from the 173d Airborne Brigade Combat Team, Combat Support Battalion, took turns performing a single-point hook up during a training exercise at Hohenfels Training Area. The large hook is connected to the bottom of a Blackhawk helicopter to hoist the Humvee off the ground.



Sgt. 1st Class Jason B. Matheny (left, Special Troops Battalion, 173d Airborne Brigade Combat Team, speaks to the mayor of a mock village during a training exercise in Hohenfels, Germany.

Troops learn cross-cultural communication

Story and photos by

Pfc. Michael A. Baltz

107th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

HOHENFELS, Germany - “Sometimes you have to go into a city and knock down the doors, and sometimes you have to go into a city and win the minds and hearts of the people,” said Sgt. 1st Class Jason B. Matheny.

Using both methods, Soldiers of Alpha and Headquarters and Headquarters Companies, Special Troops Battalion, 173d Airborne Brigade Combat Team, performed a cordon and search training exercise at the Joint Multinational Readiness Center at Hohenfels, Germany, March 20.

The mission was to perform a village assessment and use human

intelligence that indicated the possible location of a small arms collection in the town of Dwana Boba being stockpiled by terrorist Mahabeed Jihaad.

The mission called for an aerial insertion using Black Hawk UH-68 helicopters and to approach the city passively.

“We kept our hands off our weapons to show we are not here to attack,” said Matheny. Matheny and his troops attempted to enter the city to speak with the mayor, but were denied entry by the villagers.

After the interpreter helped gain the confidence of the villagers, they took the troops to the village leader. In order to receive the truth, Matheny had to gain the respect of the mayor and be very personal. “The mayor was a farmer so I started

talking about my experiences in farming,” he said. Matheny was then directed to the village electrician, who is the carrier of the city’s intelligence.

The electrician then guided them to their high value target, Jihaad. When Jihaad refused to talk, the Soldiers used force to apprehend him, and began to clear the buildings where they found the small arms collection and IED-making materials.

Matheny informed the mayor that if he needs any assistance or if another cell comes through to call him and they will come and take care of it.

The collective knowledge and experience from the leaders will help prepare the Soldiers on what to expect when they deploy.

Deploying Soldiers have options for taking care of pets

Vicenza Veterinary Treatment Facility
Special to the Outlook

Soldiers on orders to deploy who have pets need to start looking now to find a solution for their pet care needs – abandoning your pet to fend for itself is the wrong solution.

Below are several options:

1. Find a friend or family who is local and can provide foster care during your absence.
2. Contact foster pet organizations. One organization on the Web is perationnoblefoster.org/
3. Contract with a local kennel for care during your absence. There are several kennels in the area with average costs starting around 14 Euro per day.
4. Arrange for the pet to return to the U.S. to stay with friends or family. There are several ways to return your pet to the U.S.
 - a. You can take your pet back before you deploy.
 - b. Family or a friend can transport the pet with them to the states.
 - c. You can arrange for travel with a pet transportation companies or the airlines. One listed on the Internet is www.pettravel.com.
5. Adopt your pet to a responsible and caring family. Keep in mind that the original

owner will be responsible for the pet until the change of ownership is registered at the Veterinary Treatment Facility.

One way to find a local foster family is to advertise on the MWR Web site: www.vicenzamwr.com, another way is word-of-mouth, ask around!

Veterinary Treatment Facility assistance

1. The VTF can provide assistance for authorization of your pet's care during your absence or transfer of records and ownership if necessary. You are ultimately responsible for any payment and should make arrangements with your pet's care provider prior to deploying.
2. The VTF can issue a health certificate and permanent identification required for return to the U.S.
3. The Veterinary Clinic will keep a list of anyone volunteering to foster pets for deployed Soldiers. However, these agreements are strictly between you and the foster family.
4. The Veterinary Clinic provides a list of local kennels.
Contact the Veterinary Treatment Facility at 635-4841 for questions.

SETAF chief of staff speaks with Vicenza Lions Club about Caserma Ederle, future



Col. Gordon B. Davis, SETAF chief of staff, accepts the Lions Club banner from the Club president, Angelino Rinaldi, after a briefing to the club in Villafranca, Verona March 20. Davis spoke to the members on the current status and future of SETAF and the 173d Airborne Brigade Combat Team in the Vicenza area. There were more than 80 attendees to include Italian Air Force Col. Massari, Villafranca Airport Base commander. (Courtesy photo)

Changes made to MEDEVAC system

U.S. Army Health Clinic Vicenza
Press Release

The MEDEVAC bus to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center now departs and returns from in front of the Vicenza commissary. Long-term parking for those utilizing the government bus transportation will be permitted at the commissary, but only through a personal request from the patient movement coordinator, at 634-7777, or 0444-71-7777 from off post.

A special parking pass has been created for MEDEVAC patients only.

The bus schedule remains the same: Depart Vicenza on Mondays and Thursdays at 7:15 a.m., return to Vicenza on Tuesdays and Fridays at

approximately 9 p.m.

The MEDEVAC office now offers updated information packets to help during your stay in Germany.

The packet includes base maps and information on billeting facilities, taxi services and more.

For details, call Dakasha Leonard at 634-7777, or 0444-71-7777 from off post.

The MEDEVAC office hours are 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Wednesday and Fridays, from 1-4:30 p.m. on Thursdays.

The patient movement coordinator is available however, for emergencies and by appointment outside of the regularly scheduled hours.

These hours are subject to change without advanced notification.

SETAF Disciplinary report: Feb.1 - March 12

Office of the Staff Judge Advocate
Special to the Outlook

Seven Soldiers received adverse actions during this reporting period for driving a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol.

Two other Soldiers received non-judicial punishment for illegal drug use.

In addition, six soldiers were convicted at courts-martial for various categories of misconduct.

Below is a break down of the action taken against the offenders and the punishments they received.

Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol

Two Soldiers received both non-judicial punishment under Article 15 and General Officer Memoranda of Reprimand for driving a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol.

Three other Soldiers received GOMORs and are pending Article 15 punishment.

In addition, one Soldier received Article 15 punishment and is pending a GOMOR.

Finally, one Soldier received a GOMOR and received Article 15 punishment in the previous reporting period.

The three Soldiers who received Article 15 punishment during this reporting period were ordered to forfeit a combined total of \$4,678, all were reduced one rank or more, and all were ordered to serve 45 days of extra duty and 45 days of restriction.

The Soldier who received Article 15 punishment during the previous reporting period was ordered to forfeit \$2,000, was reduced one rank and ordered to serve 45 days of extra duty and 45 days of restriction.

In addition, all the above DUI offenders had their vehicles impounded by the military police and their driving privileges suspended or revoked by the USAG Vicenza commander.

Courts-Martial

Feb. 1: Contrary to his pleas, a military panel sitting as a General Court Martial convicted Pvt. Orlando Reynolds, B Company, 1st Battalion, 503d Infantry (Airborne), of indecent acts with a child and an indecent assault.

The military panel sentenced Reynolds to a Bad Conduct Discharge and 60 days confinement.

In addition, Reynolds is required to register as a sex offender in accordance with 42 U.S.C. Section 14071.

Feb. 6: Pursuant to his pleas, a Summary Court Martial Officer convicted Spc. Anthony Craig, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 173d Airborne Brigade Combat Team, of drunkenness on

duty and failure to obey a lawful order.

The Summary Court Martial officer sentenced Craig to a reduction in rank from E-4 to E-1 and 30 days of confinement.

Feb. 7: Pursuant to his pleas, a military judge sitting as a Special Court Martial convicted Staff Sgt. Anthony Chatmon, Det D, 38th Personnel Services Battalion, of dereliction of duty and false official statement.

The military judge sentenced Chatmon to reduction in rank from E6 to E4 and 120 days of confinement.

March 1: Pursuant to her pleas, a Summary Court-Martial officer convicted Pvt. Samantha Payne of writing checks with insufficient funds on 22 separate occasions.

The Summary Court-Martial officer sentenced Payne to 10 days of confinement.

In addition, Payne will be discharged from the Army with an Other Than Honorable discharge under the provisions of AR 635-200.

March 6: Pursuant to his pleas, a Summary Court Martial officer convicted Pvt. Patrick Pitts, F Co, 2d Battalion, 503d Infantry (Airborne), of wrongful use of a controlled substance.

The Summary Court Martial officer sentenced Pitts to reduction in rank from E2 to E1, to forfeit \$867, and 14 days of confinement.

Further, in accordance with AR 635-200, Pitts will be processed for administrative separation which could result in his discharge from the Army with an Other Than Honorable service characterization.

March 12: Pursuant to his pleas, a Summary Court Martial officer convicted Pfc. DJ Wood, A Co, 2-503d Inf (Abn), of drunk and disorderly conduct, wrongfully damaging of government property, and disrespect towards a noncommissioned officer.

The Summary Court Martial officer sentenced Wood to reduction in rank from E4 to E3, 14 days restriction and 14 days of extra duty.

Drug Use and/or Possession

Two Soldiers received non-judicial punishment under Article 15 during this reporting period for the wrongful use of a controlled substance.

The offenders forfeited a combined total of \$2,600, both were reduced one rank or more, and both were ordered to serve 45 days of extra duty or 45 days of restriction.

Further, in accordance with AR 635-200, these Soldiers will be processed for administrative separation which could result in their discharge from the Army with an Other Than Honorable service characterization.

CAC, Information Exchange meeting Wednesday

Have your issues heard and acted upon by Caserma Ederle leadership.

Find out what's happening in your community straight from the folks who make the events happen.

The Community Action Council/Information Exchange is Wednesday beginning at 10 a.m. in the Veneto Room at Club V (right behind Subway).

Can't make it to the meeting? The CAC/Information Exchange is on the air. Tune

into AFN 106FM either on your radio or Channel 142 on your AFN decoder.

You can even call in issues from home during the meeting and have them answered live on air.

You can also look up previous CAC issues and see if your issue has already been addressed. Go to the USAG Vicenza Web site: www.usag.vicenza.army.mil, click on Community Action Council and follow the instructions.

Soldier saluted as Army's top contracting NCO

Story and photo by Laura Kreider
Outlook Staff

Throughout the years, the Italy Regional Contracting Office, has been recognized with many individual and team awards by USAREUR for the professionalism of its workforce.

The Italy RCO – which has a staff of 23 in Vicenza as well as five in Livorno – has won the U. S. Army Contracting Command Europe award for Best Office for five straight years.

A month ago a member of the Italy RCO received the award for the top Contracting Officer, Contingency Contracting from the former Secretary of the Army during a ceremony at the pentagon.

“This is the Secretary of the Army Awards for Excellence in Contracting,” said Master Sgt. Bentura Fernandez, still astonished at being the winner at the top level.

Fernandez has been working at the RCO in Lerino since April 2006 as the Contracting NCOIC.

The Secretary of the Army Awards for Excellence in Contracting were established in the summer of 1997 and since then they are presented annually to recognize exemplary contracting organizations and individuals that excel in customer satisfaction, productivity, process improvement and quality enhancement.

About 100 nominations for 14 award categories were submitted for 2006.

Fernandez's nomination for the award went through different levels before the final selection at the Army level.

“I actually won a lower award for the Army Contracting Agency as their top NCO for last year, and I thought that was a great accomplishment in itself. So, when I was selected and I received this award from the former Secretary of the Army Dr. Francis J. Harvey and the deputy assistant secretary of the army for policy and procurement, Tina Ballard, I was very surprised, excited and humbled at the same time,” explained Fernandez.

Between 2005 and 2006, Fernandez was assigned to the Multinational Security Transition Command, responsible for training and supporting the Iraqi Security Forces.

“I think I received the award basically for my work during that timeframe, because that was a critical time for the Iraqi Security Forces training and building up the Iraqi Army,” he said. “We were providing all the support for that. I think that was the basis for the award.”

“I have worked with dozens of Procurement NCOs in my years in contracting and Master Sgt. Fernandez is without doubt the best,” said Maj. John Coombs, Army Contracting Agency - Europe, Italy RCO deputy office chief.

“This award from the Secretary of the Army could not be more deserved. He's determined to get the right equipment to Soldiers on the battlefield quickly, efficiently, and affordably,” Coombs added.

Even though Fernandez has only been in this community for less than a year, at the end of next month he will head to the Sergeants Major Academy in Fort Bliss, Texas.



Frank S. Petty, Italy RCO Chief (left) shares some information with Master Sgt. Bentura Fernandez during a meeting in Lerino. Fernandez was recently honored at Department of the Army-level as the best contracting NCO in the Army. Fernandez will be leaving Vicenza to attend the Sergeants Major Academy soon.

“It is my first time in Italy and in Vicenza. My wife, Antonnete, and I really enjoyed it. We really do love the Vicenza community. Unfortunately, I am leaving sooner than I thought,” he said.

“Master sergeant Fernandez is the best contracting NCO in the Army and we will certainly miss him after he leaves the RCO to attend the Sergeants Major Academy,” said

Frank S. Petty, Italy RCO chief.

“He proves that Warriors (he comes from a Special Operations background) can do well in acquisition. Now, that 51C (ALT Procurement NCO) has become a Military Occupational Specialty (MOS), I hope Soldiers interested in business will look into this new and challenging opportunity,” Petty added.

Health Center focusing on predeployment

U.S. Army Health Center Vicenza
Press Release

The U.S. Army Health Center Vicenza will be conducting pre-deployment processing April. During this time, the health center will be concentrating on ensuring that Soldiers

are ready to deploy.

Patients who need routine appointments, tests, or prescriptions are asked defer this to non-PDP days.

For any comments or concerns, call the patient representative at 634-7592 or 0444-71-7952 from off post.

What 'Whistleblower' protection, reprisal means to you

LTC Paul Bishop
SETAF Inspector General
Special to the Outlook

If the chain-of-command is the first line of defense when it comes to taking care of our Soldiers and civilians, then the chain of command has an inherent responsibility to ensure that all problems brought to their attention are properly addressed and fixed in a timely manner.

However, there are times when our Soldiers and civilians may require assistance from agencies outside of the chain of command.

For example, the chain of command may have attempted to address the issue and is not able to fix the problem.

Per Department of Defense Directive (DoDD) 7050.6, it is DoD policy that all Soldiers and civilian employees have the right to present complaints or requests for assistance (protected communication) to the following individuals/offices:

- ◆ A Member of Congress.
- ◆ An Inspector General.
- ◆ A member of a DoD audit, inspection, investigation, or law enforcement organization; or
- ◆ Any other person or organization (including any person or organization in the chain of command) designated under DoD component regulations or other established administrative procedures to receive such communications.

No person shall restrict a Soldier or civilian employee from making a protected communication.

Additionally, Soldiers and civilian employees shall be free from reprisal for making or preparing a protected communication.

No person may take or threaten to take an unfavorable personnel action, or withhold or threaten to withhold a favorable personnel action, in reprisal against any Soldier or civilian employee for making or preparing a protected communication.

Personnel actions are any action taken on a member of the Armed Forces that affects or

has the potential to affect that military member's current position or career. Such actions include a promotion; a disciplinary or other corrective action; a transfer or reassignment; a performance evaluation; a decision on pay, benefits, awards, or training; referral for mental health evaluations under DoD Directive 6490.1; and any other significant change in duties or responsibilities

inconsistent with the military member's rank.

Any violation of paragraph above is punishable as a violation of Section 892 of 10 U.S.C. (Article 92 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, "Failure to obey order or regulation").

Civilian employees of the DoD who violate the above paragraph, shall be subject to disciplinary or adverse action for misconduct pursuant to Chapter 75 of 5 U.S.C.

The chain of command will ensure complainants are protected from reprisal or retaliation. Should Soldiers or civilian employees be threatened with such an act, or should an act of reprisal occur, they should report the incident to the Inspector General.

No person may take or threaten to take an unfavorable personnel action, or withhold or threaten to withhold a favorable personnel action, in reprisal against any Soldier or civilian employee for making or preparing a protected communication.

Department of Defense Directive

The Outlook

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SETAF Commander
Maj. Gen. Frank G. Helmick

USAG Vicenza Commander and Publisher
Col. Virgil S. L. Williams

Editor
Diana Bahr

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DSN 634-7000, FAX 634-7543, off post at 0444-71-7000, fax 0444-71-7543.
E-mail: editor@setaf.army.mil

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Private's blog not private

Story and photo by Sgt. Brandon Aird
173d Airborne Brigade Combat Team
Public Affairs

HOHENFELS, Germany—Millions of people write online blogs or use and maintain a MySpace® page. Alone both sites are absolutely harmless. What can hurt you is the information displayed on them.

Anyone can access your online blog. Even a personal MySpace® with privacy setting activated can still be viewed. Plus, there are people out there whose soul purpose in life is to try to hijack your blog account for advertisement purposes.

What does all this have to do with the military?

Actually, quite a lot. You can find almost any rank in the military on blog and friend sites – officer and enlisted.

That recent blog you posted you think no one sees but your friends, can easily be found using a Google® search by people looking for sensitive information.

Recently, Soldiers of the 173d Airborne Brigade Combat Team received notification for a deployment to Iraq, which was later changed to Afghanistan.

Information associated with the upcoming deployment is important for your family to know, but you have to take into consideration operational security, or OPSEC.

OPSEC means talking about troop

movements, timelines, upcoming missions and casualties are some of the things considered off-limits while on the Internet or phone.

Posting or talking about anything that can be used against you or the military isn't a good idea.

Insurgents have used pictures and video found on Soldier's blogs in propaganda against the U.S. military.

Recently a brigade staff member was searching for operational security violations and found a blog from a Soldier with Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 503d Infantry (Airborne).

The blog didn't violate OPSEC, but caused a few eyes to turn. It wasn't that the Soldier did anything wrong; it was that he did everything right.

Pfc. Morgan Luttmann wrote a blog about his life in Italy and as a Soldier in the 173d Airborne Brigade Combat Team. The blog talked about his weekend adventures as well as training exercises around Europe.

The blog abruptly stopped talking about his weekends and he explained he's about to deploy to Afghanistan and doesn't want to violate OPSEC or say anything that could be used against the unit.

The words Afghanistan, 173d and deployment, made the blog pop up when staff member did a Google® search for



Pfc. Morgan Luttmann, Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 503rd Infantry (Airborne), after a squad live fire exercise in Hohenfels, Germany, March 18.

information on the upcoming deployment.

The same information would have popped up for an insurgent if he was conducting the same search. If Luttmann had posted troop movement dates or other information, the enemy could have used it against the Soldiers.

The blog made its way around the brigade command. Even Maj. Gen. Frank G. Helmick, SETAF commander, has seen Luttmann's blog.

"I wasn't even aware they had seen my blog," said Luttmann after coming back from a squad live-fire exercise in Hohenfels,

Germany, where the brigade is training.

Luttmann hadn't been told by his leadership not to write about the upcoming deployment.

"I just thought it was the right thing to do," he said. "It's pretty crazy that General Helmick saw my blog. I thought I was in trouble."

Luttmann was following OPSEC procedures, which are mostly common sense.

The next time you talk on your cell phone, think before you speak. Or, as in Luttmann's case, think before you write.

Silent auction raises money to support Vicenza High School athletics

Story and photos by Laura Kreider
Outlook Staff

More than 100 items such as handicrafts, jewelry and theme baskets were on display for the Silent Auction held in the Vicenza High School gym March 16.

The event sponsored by the VHS Booster Club was a way to raise money to purchase athletic equipment for the school. Members of the community donated theme baskets with different products, bicycles, art crafts, food and wine just to name a few.

Many volunteers participated in the event, which took more than a month of preparation.

"There is a lot of work to be done for this

auction and the community came together to help out," said Kati Hunnewell, a VHS student athlete who volunteered at the event.

Games for children were also hosted by the National Honor Society to involve the younger members of the community.

Melissa Bender, one of the Vicenza Booster Club members explained that many military members and families played a part in the event.

"It is a community function, but also at the same time it is a great fund raiser," Bender said.

When the auction ended, the amount raised was more than \$4,800.



(Above) Community members crowd in the Vicenza High School gym to participate in the Silent Auction hosted by the VHS Booster Club March 16. More than 100 items such as bicycles, food, wine and theme baskets were auctioned off. More than \$4,800 was raised by the auction. Proceeds go to purchase items for the Vicenza sports teams. (Right) A VHS student and also a volunteer at the event, helps auction off the football autographed by Indianapolis Colts kicker, Adam Vinatieri, at the Silent Auction.



VHS Cougar soccer teams battle Aviano, Naples at home



(Above) Vicenza High School Cougar #6 tries to block a high-flying kick from an Aviano player. Looking to help back him up is #23. Both boy's and girl's soccer teams took on Aviano March 17 at home. The boys tied Aviano 1-1. (Right) Vicenza girl's soccer player (right) tries to beat an Aviano player to the ball during their meet March 17. The girls lost to Aviano 0-1. Unfortunately, the game played by the Vicenza Girls Soccer team was interrupted toward the end of the second half when some player's were injured.



The VHS Cougars met Naples at home Saturday. Results from those games were: Vicenza Boys 0, Naples, 5; Vicenza girl's 1, Naples 0.

The next games will be played in Milan, Rome and Aviano. There will be another game on the North 40 on May 12 versus Milan. May 16-19 May the European Championships take place in Germany. (Photos by Laura Kreider, Outlook staff)

Livorno Lions celebrate final game with win

By Jeff Taylor
Livorno Unit School
Special to the Outlook

Livorno Unit School held their last boy's basketball game of the season and in the school's history.

It was a fantastic time and an incredible way to close out decades of Livorno Boy's basketball.

The event began at a roaring bonfire where Adrian Acosta led us in some great Livorno cheers.

Then, with a police escort, the entire Livorno student body, parents and friends marched with our basketball team singing and cheering all the way to the gym.

The fun did not end there as, in front of a capacity crowd, the Livorno Boys basketball team played their most complete game of the season.

They were high energy, but under control throughout. They ran the fast break to perfection and easily broke the Milan full-court press.

It was a balanced attack indicative of the

teamwork we have strived for all year.

Four players scored in double figures, led by Miguel Vicente with 12 points, Will Berrios and Alessio Brucellato with 11 points and Timmy Salerno with 10 points.

Lucas Salerno may have only scored four points, but it was the best four-point performance I have ever seen at the school.

Salerno's strong defense, especially in breaking up several Milan fast breaks, and excellent leadership on court, helped set the tone for a Livorno victory.

The game was tight throughout, with no team ever having more than a six-point lead. Up by one point with only a minute left, Livorno's defense clamped down and



Livorno Lions Boys basketball coach Jeff Taylor with the last Livorno Unit School Boy's basketball team. The high school is scheduled to close at the end of this school year in June. (Photo by Kathleen Hall, Livorno Unit School)

stopped Milan from scoring. The final score was 50-47. When the final buzzer sounded, the entire team, student body, parents, and friends stormed the court for an emotional celebration.

Cell phone changes

By Barbara Ranieri
USAG Livorno
Community Affairs Advisor

A new Italian law went into effect and changed what Italian cellphone providers can charge consumers. Now, all Italian services must eliminate the recharge fee and charges will no longer expire. However, providers will apply this new law in a different manner:

- Tim will cancel the recharge fee for new and old customers.
- Wind will cancel the recharge fee only if the customer asks it, but the company will increase calling costs.
- 3 Italia will cancel the recharge fee and will eliminate the "power" recharge.
- Vodafone will cancel the recharge fee, but new customers will have a higher answering fee.

Some Italian tobacco shops that sell recharge cards have gone on strike because of profit cuts resulting from the new law.

Camp Darby Briefs

Army Community Service notes

Camp Darby Volunteers: Make sure your monthly volunteer hours are recorded and kept current so you can get recognized at year's Volunteer Recognition Ceremony April 27.

Submit your hours by March 29.

April is Child Abuse Prevention Month and Month of the Military Child: Our children need caring adults, safe homes and secure schools, healthy development opportunities, effective chances to learn and grow and a community committed to their protection and welfare.

April 4: 1 p.m. is "Family Fun Pizza Making" for parents with or without children.

Come and learn how to make pizza special.

Changes to AFN radio

Check out the new "Saturday Eagle Show" with Sgt. Trevor Pedro, 9 a.m.- 1 p.m. on 106FM. Tom Joyner is no longer on the air.

Darby Community Club

Thursdays and Saturdays: Xbox 360 Nite with Perfect Dark Zero and Madden '07 to enjoy, or bring your Halo!

March 30: From 6 p.m. until closing, Pack Man is in the house spinning the tunes.

Single Service members Egg Hunt

April 6 at the Darby Community Club at 5:30 p.m. followed by a free barbeque on the porch.

Find the golden eggs to win great prizes! Open to single service members only. Call Ernest Beezley at 633-7491 for more information.

CID Special Agents sought

If you are motivated and ready for the challenge, and are an E-5 or below, a U.S. citizen, have a GT score of 110 or higher, have at least 60 college credits and no court martial convictions, we want you. Visit the Web site: www.cid.army.mil for more information.

army.mil for more information.

Community egg hunt

April 7: Come to the Darby Community Club, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. to celebrating Easter with egg hunts, games, food and fun for all.

Youth Services

Volunteers Needed for Easter Egg Hunt: English and Italian speaking volunteers are needed for this year's community Easter celebration April 7.

Helpers needed with the Easter egg hunt, face painting, fish pond, cupcake decorating, egg decorating, egg relay and balloon toss. Or maybe you'd like to help cook or be the playground safety time staff.

Call Kerry Lawrence at 633-8084 if you can volunteer your skills and talents in any capacity to help out.

Darby ITR Trips

Sesto Fiorentino Market March 31: Find everything you need from housewares to fresh

produce to the latest fashions. Call ITR at 633-7589.

Livorno Unit School

Early registration for school year 2007-2008 will be held April 19 - 20 at the Livorno Unit School.

School Play: March 30-31 at 7 p.m. in the performing arts center.

Memorial Fund

A memorial fund for Pancreatic Cancer Research in memory of Camp Darby community member, Durrell Kent Austin, has been set up.

Cathy Magni, Livorno High School or Carol Paulsen, Livorno Elementary School will collect donations until March 30 and then will send a check from the Livorno school faculty and Camp Darby community.

Donations in Durrell's name can also be sent to: Pancreatic Cancer Research - Various Donor Fund University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center, PO Box 4486 Houston, TX 77219-4486.

Darby Chapel

- 8:30 a.m.:** Catholic Reconciliation
- 9:30 a.m.:** Catholic Mass
- 11:15 a.m.:** Protestant worship

Durrell's final resting place will be Sixteen Springs Canyon cemetery in New Mexico.

Fitness Center

4th Annual Camp Darby 5k Fun Run March 30 at 8:30 a.m. hosted by the Livorno High School Personal Fitness Class and the Fitness Center. Registration begins March 1 and is open to the community.

Vehicle sealed bid sale

The closing date for bids is March 29 at 1 p.m. Bids can be faxed or submitted online at www.vebeg.de.

Purchasers must clear vehicles through the local Italian customs office prior to vehicle pick up.

712th Muniton Squadron changes command



Members of 712th Muniton Squadron render salutes as Lt. Col. Carnell C. Cunningham relinquished command to Lt. Col. Tammy S. Cobb. Cobb comes from the pentagon, where she was the deputy chief, Mission Development Division. Cunningham's next assignment is at Hill Air Force Base, Utah. (Photo by Elena Baladelli, USAG Livorno Photo Lab)

Thanks for your support



Lt. Col. David Touzinsky, 14th Transportation Battalion, thanks Julie Gardner, spouse of a 497th Movement Control Team Soldier who was deployed to Afghanistan, during the welcome home ceremony for the unit. (Photo by Elena Baladelli, USAG Livorno Photo Lab)

Out & About



By Dorothy Spagnuolo

Free time exhibition

Continuing until April 1 at the Vicenza fair grounds is the exhibition *Free time, Tempolibero*, this is an exhibition of camping, sportswear, leisure goods, hobbies, cars, boats and vacation ideas.

Open through April 1: weekends 9:30 a.m.-8 p.m.; weekdays 3:30-10 p.m.

Entrance fee: weekends 8 euros, weekdays 2 euros.

Passion of Christ

In many Italian cities, towns and villages, the Passion of Christ will be reenacted on Good Friday, April 6.

This reenactment usually takes place in the evening hours and is celebrated with a procession, which starts from and arrives back at the participants' local church. The size of this procession can range from 50 to several hundred people.

On the parade route, you will see lighted candles in the windows of the houses. The lighted candles are a sign of respect to the passing procession. If you are in the area and in a vehicle, pull over to the side of the road until the procession has passed.

In the town of Grassina, near Florence, a procession composed of over 500 costumed 'actors' starts at 9:15 p.m.

To book a reservation to view this 90 minute event, visit : www.rievstoricagrassina.it/english/index.htm

Up and down the bridges

The 29th non-competitive walk of Venice's 'Su e zo per i ponti' takes place this year on April 15 come rain or shine.

This is a non-competitive march that attracts a great number of Venetians as well as groups from different parts of Italy.

The route starts from the Ponte della Paglia and winds along the city calli, fondamenta and campi, passing through most sestieri as far

as the finish post in Piazza San Marco.

There are two distances: the 3km for children, and the 10km. for adults.

Activities start at 9:30 a.m. in Piazza San Marco with performances by different folk groups, followed by the start of the march at 10 a.m. from Ponte della Paglia (located nearby).

Maximum time to finish the course is four hours.

To see the routes that will be taken go to www.tgseurogroup.it.

There is a four euro registration fee that can be paid in St. Marks Square. Registration will continue until the registration cards run out.

Pinocchio park

In the town of Collodi find 'The Park of Pinocchio.' This park, which is far from being a traditional amusement park, is a creation of artistic work by many Italian artists.

The park was built over a period of 31 years from 1956 to 1987 and is labeled the first and foremost center of Pinocchiology in the world.

Facilities include a puppet laboratory where you can inspect the various stages of puppet's gestation; from wooden block to a fully dressed marionette. They also have regular shows, exhibitions, demonstrations and other entertainment.

Another point of interest is the 'Square of Mosaics,' which tells the story of the main episodes with vivid originality. Also, visit the 'Red Prawn Tavern.'

The Village of Pinocchio, which is the starting point of a paved path whose borders are populated by the figures from the story such as the Cat and the Fox; the Tree of golden Ducats, which is located in the Field of Miracles; the Great Whale, the Fairy and other personalities from the book.

Fans who expect to find Disney's little chubby-cheeked Pinocchio and his cricket companion might be surprised – the Italian Pinocchio is less cherubic, with a sharp nose, angular limbs and often a much less

likeable expression.

Collodi is the birthplace of Carlo Collodi, the literary Geppetto to the character of Pinocchio, he was born Lorenzetti, but adopted the surname Collodi out of patriotic regionalism.

The town of Collodi celebrates the birthday of Pinocchio between the end of May (the book was published 25 May 1883) and the beginning of June every year, so you can expect extra celebrations to be added in the entertainment park for this little wooden humanoid and his array of strange friends.

The park is open 10 a.m.- 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. until sundown; the entrance fees last year were: adults: 8.50 euro; children 6-14 years of age: 6.50 euro.

Waterfall Park

There is a Parco delle Cascate, waterfall park, near the little village of Molina, province of Verona.

Smooth and safe paths lead the visitor to the edge of deep ravines, where the water falls noisily; at other points, the stream flows slowly and forms little green lakes.

Another attraction of this park is the vast array of plants and herbs the park exhibits in their Botanical Museum.

The museum is situated in a building attached to the main entrance and offers the visitor the opportunity to learn and recognize the countless existing species of plants.

Other things to see in the park include an old dairy, mill ruins and mysterious crosses engraved on rocks.

There is a bar and picnic areas as well as three different walking routes: half hour; one hour and two hour routes.

You can find the route maps online, as well as other information, (written in Italian only), at www.cascatemolina.it.

The park is open everyday from April 1 to Sept. 30 from 9 a.m.-7:30 p.m. Entrance fee: adults four euro, children 6-11 years of age three euro; under six years of age: free.

Now Showing

Caserma Ederle Theater

March 27	CLOSED	
March 28	Stomp the Yard (PG13)	7 p.m.
March 29	Freedom Writers (PG13)	7 p.m.
March 30	The Queen (PG13)	7 p.m.
	Reign Over Me (R)	10 p.m.
March 31	Brother Bear (G)	1 p.m.
	Dreamgirls (PG13)	4 p.m.
	Reign Over Me (R)	7 p.m.
April 1	The Queen (PG13)	4 p.m.
	Smoking Aces (R)	7 p.m.
April 2	CLOSED	
April 3	CLOSED	

Camp Darby Theater

March 29	Stomp the Yard (PG13)	6 p.m.
March 30	"To be announced locally"	6 p.m.
March 31	Smoking Aces (R)	6 p.m.
April 1	Dreamgirls (PG13)	2 p.m.

Movie Synopsis

STOMP THE YARD - *Columbus Short, Brian J. White*. DJ, a troubled youth from Los Angeles attending the historically black Truth University in Atlanta, Georgia. When adapting to his new environment proves difficult, DJ begins implementing his street-style dance moves in an attempt to help the step team win the coveted National Step Show Championship. Soon, he becomes the competing fraternity's main rival, while trying to pursue his new love interest, deal with his own troubled past and learn the true meanings of brotherhood and fraternity along the way.

THE QUEEN - *Helen Mirren, Michael Sheen*. The setting for this fictional account of real events is no less than the private chambers of the Royal Family and the British government in the wake of the sudden death of Princess Diana in August of 1997. In the immediate aftermath of the princess's passing, the tightly contained, tradition-bound world of the Queen of England clashes with the slick modernity of the country's brand new, image-conscious Prime Minister, Tony Blair. The result is an intimate, yet thematically epic, battle between private and public, responsibility and emotion, custom and action - as a grieving nation waits to see what its leaders will do.

DREAMGIRLS - *Beyonce Knowles, Jamie Foxx*. Effie White, Deena Jones, and Lorrell Robinson - three friends from Chicago - are a promising singing trio called The Dreamettes. Their talent attracts an ambitious manager by the name of Curtis Taylor Jr., who uses unscrupulous tactics to move the girls from backup singers to superstars of their own. The money, fame, and adulation, however, doesn't bring them happiness.

Admission: Age 12 and over \$4, under age 12, \$2.
The Ederle Theatre box office opens one hour prior to show time.

Classified Ads

Editor's Note: Caserma Ederle community members may place free classified ads (**not personal or personal services ads**) on the MWR Web site: www.vicenzamwr.com/marketplace.

Every Tuesday at noon, MWR sends the ads to *The Outlook* for the next publication.

The Outlook and Directorate of MWR are not responsible for any errors in the advertisement.

Photos accompanying the advertisement will not appear in *The Outlook*. Because *The Outlook* has limited space available, the ad may be edited.

The Outlook does not take classifieds; sellers must place ads on www.vicenzamwr.com.

For details on an item you see listed here, visit the MWR Web site: www.vicenzamwr.com/marketplace.

Booster Seat: \$40.

Wanted: Trampoline.

1990 Fiat Tipo: 140,000 Km. Asking \$650, OBO.

For Sale: Car audio equipment **30" HDTV CRT:** \$250, OBO.

PlayStation 3: Brand new. \$500.

Transformers: 750 and 1000. good condition.

Diamond Ring: 1/4 carat diamond solitaire.

Fencing: Meets US Army housing regulations. \$50, OBO.

SKY TV system for sale: \$250.

Numerous UMUC text books: Call or e-mail for description, price.

Free to good home: Two, 1 yr. old female cats.

Toshiba 21" Color TV: \$40.

Onkyo Tuner & CD Player: 220v. Perfect condition. \$40.

Fisher Stereo: 110V, \$65.

Wanted: Bicycle rear seat for toddler.

Wanted: Multi-system DVD Player.

Italian sofa for sale: \$1300.

1984 Visa Citroen: \$200.

1994 Saturn: Runs great. \$1300.00 OBO.

1996 Rover 820 TI 197 HP: \$1500 OBO.

Free to good home: Two year old Shepherd-mix, gentle and loving. Likes other dogs.

1994 BMW coupe: Great condition. \$5,000, OBO.

1991 VW Golf: \$1,000

Walnut entertainment center: 2 yrs. old, \$750.

Nintendo Wii and 6 games: \$500.

1995 Renault: Dependable, runs great. 169,710km. \$1,500.

85 Watt Voltage Converter: \$15.

1995 Fiat Croma: \$ 900, OBO.

HP dv1000 Laptop: \$800, OBO.

1999 BMW 530 D Touring: Euro Specs, 223,000 Km, Automatic. 7950.00 Euro.

For sale: 3 rabbits and cage.

Wanted: Quality foosball table.

56k dial up modem: \$30

Drummer: Experienced rock, jazz, blues drummer seeks band.

Foster family for dog during deployment: Patient with kids. House trained inside or outside dog. We'll pay board, food and any vet bills.

Multicultural Fair

Story and photos by Laura Kreider
Outlook Staff

Have you ever visited seven continents in a few hours? This experience was made possible by MWR during Friday's Multicultural Fair, which took place on Caserma Ederle. The event kicked off in front of the post theater where participants picked up their passports and started their way throughout several facilities such as Davis Family Readiness Center, the post library, the teen center, Club V, ITR and USO to visit the continents.

"Each continent represented four countries and had fashion, flavors, music and activities for everyone to enjoy," said Shay Morris, USAG Vicenza Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation's Community Activities coordinator.

"After visiting each continent and getting the passport stamped, participants were eligible for the prize drawing that took place after the fashion show at the PX Food court," she added.

"I think the Multicultural Fair is one of the best community events we do on post," said Kelli Covlin, coordinator for Asia.

"It is fun and educational, and a great opportunity for our community members from diverse backgrounds to share a piece of their heritage with the community. In Asia we had women volunteers who represented Japan, Korea, China and the Philippines. They dedicated time, energy and their resourcefulness in making our station fantastic. They created displays about their countries, taught traditional games and shared some traditional foods, and many dressed in traditional clothing. They were great, and we couldn't have done it without them," she continued.

One of the participants, 8-year-old Kaylee Stoner, enjoyed this new experience.

"I thought it was nice for the children and parents to enjoy," Stoner said.

"I especially enjoyed the chocolate kisses from Germany and making the flowers in the rain forest, one of the South America countries."

Even new community members had the chance to participate in the event.

"I thought it was a great idea for the kids. They all had a blast," said Elaine Valentin, who just arrived in Vicenza.

"They had so much fun while learning a lot about each country. My children already knew something about almost every one of them, and they were telling me, mom, mom you've got to see this, I already know this," Valentin said. All the passports were collected prior to entering the PX and the drawing concluded the event.

Fair



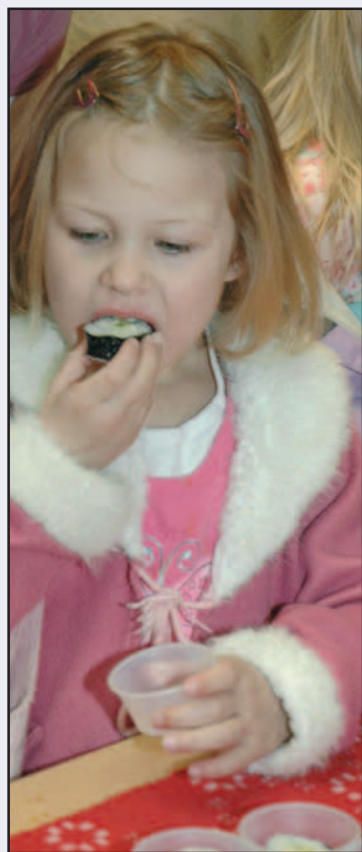
(Right) A child wears a Sombbrero, a Mexican hat while visiting the ITR and USO where North America was represented.



(Above) Anne Jarow, MWR Marketing, right, hands out the event's passport to one of the participants in the Multicultural Fair held on post Friday. (Left) Miriam Flach-Pittman (right) offers some chocolate kisses from Germany as part of the food tasting at Club Veneto where Europe was represented while Circe Aponte, (right) offers orange slices from Spain.



(Above) Detail of Uril, an African game from Cabo Verde. It was one of the items on display at the post library, which housed Africa.



(Above) A young girl tastes Sushi, a Japanese dish offered at Davis Family Readiness Center, which housed Asia.



(Left) Miwa Deering, one of the volunteers at the event, left, shows children how to create Origami at Davis Family Readiness Center. "This is part of our lifestyle," said Deering. "During the winter instead of trying to go outside and freeze ourselves, we stay inside, fold little papers and start making something creative. So, I believe, this is just my interpretation of the origin of Origami history."



(Above) Children enjoy creating a herbarium helped by Shawn Rollins at the teen center where South America was represented.



(Above) Lisa Foote, left, offers a Sno-Kone to a participant in the Multicultural Fair. Global Credit Union was the location for Antarctica while the Tax Relief Office housed Australia. (Left) Sung Kim, Tae Kwon Do instructor (right) concludes the demonstration at Davis Family Readiness Center as part of the scheduled events for Asia.