



The Outlook

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Five fallen Sky Soldiers remembered

Staff Sgt. David Hopkins
SETAF Public Affairs

Light streamed through the stained glass windows of the chapel as 1st Sgt. Richard Howell shouted out the names of five fallen Soldiers in their final roll call. There was no answer; the only thing heard were the quiet sobs of grieving friends and family members who realized this would be the last time these names would be shouted out in a military ceremony. The sound of Taps echoed through the crowd, adding to the finality of five glowing military careers.

Every seat was filled in the post chapel on Friday, and the walls were lined with standing Soldiers as five Sky Soldiers were remembered.

Pfc. Juan Restrepo, 20, from Pines, Fla., assigned to Company

B, 2nd Battalion, 503d Infantry (Airborne), was killed in action in the Korengal Valley, Afghanistan, July 22, after receiving wounds sustained after his dismounted patrol came under enemy small arms fire. 1st Sgt. Michael Curry, 37, from Dania Beach, Fla., Pfc. Adam Davis, 19, from Magic Valley, Idaho, Sgt. Travon Johnson, 29, from Palmdale, Calif., and Pfc. Jessie Rogers, 19, from Copper Center, Alaska, all assigned to Company D, 1st Battalion, 503d Infantry (Airborne), were killed in action in the Sarobi District, Afghanistan, July 23, when their vehicle struck an enemy Improvised Explosive Device.

All of the Soldiers were members of the 173d Airborne Brigade Combat Team, currently deployed as Task Force Bayonet in support of the NATO International Security

Assistance Force.

Restrepo, a combat medic, touched lives through his work and friendship.

"I never had the chance to repay him for all he did for me," said Spc. Frank Pecsek. "I owe him my life. He was a good friend to all us Spartans in this room. We loved him like a brother."

Pecsek was wounded by small arms fire in Operation Enduring Freedom and Restrepo treated his wounds, possibly saving his life.

Curry is remembered as an outstanding leader who always put Soldiers first.

"I knew he was destined for great things for the Army," said Command Sgt. Maj. Earl Rice, who knew Curry when he was rising through the enlisted ranks. "He never let me down. He led from the front each

and every day."

Johnson is remembered as being a friendly person, but someone who was also willing to make a correction on other Soldiers when he needed to.

"He was quick with a smile and a scolding," said Sgt. 1st Class Jason Young. "You'd be hard pressed to find anyone like him."

Rogers is remembered as a person who put his family first and someone who loved to live life.

"If you remember anything about Pfc. Rogers, remember that he remained selfless, protecting the ones he loved," said Pfc. Stephen Martinez. "He knew life was to be lived, but not too seriously. This is probably why people loved his company."

Pfc. Adam Davis joined the Army to follow family tradition.

"He joined the Army as soon as he could because he wanted to walk in the footsteps of his older brother T.J., a Soldier now in Texas, and in those of their grandfather," said Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Stevan Horning.

All of the fallen Soldiers will be missed by their friends, their family and their Army brothers and sisters. They left their mark on the lives of many, he said.

"Each of our fallen comrades was beloved by family and friends; each of them at times made us laugh in a good way," said Horning.

"They made us think; they gave us glimpses into their private struggles and ambitions and dreams. The better we knew them, the more convinced we had to be that not one of them could be duplicated by anyone else on the face of the earth."



1st Sgt. Michael S. Curry Jr.



Pfc. Adam J. Davis



Sgt. Travon T. Johnson



Pfc. Juan S. Restrepo



Pfc. Jessie S. Rogers

Anvil Troop, ANA turn insurgent ambush into victory



After launching a grenade, Staff Sgt. Brent Adams, a scout section leader from the 3rd Platoon, Anvil Troop, 1st Squadron, 91st Cavalry Regiment, 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team, reaches for another round while sprinting to his vehicle as a torrent of automatic weapons fire erupts from a nearby hill.

Story and photos Spc. Micah E. Clare
4th Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs Office

FORWARD OPERATING BASE BERMEL, Afghanistan — Up until the ambush, the early morning ride across the barren landscape of eastern Afghanistan was tranquil.

The air was filled with dust seeping in through the HMMWV turret opening and the seating was cramped to make room for extra ammunition, water and electronics. The air conditioner was double-timing to cool the passengers despite the mugginess and a sense of relaxation was added to the mission by the faint smell of cigarette smoke

saturating the clothes of Sgt. Roy Heinicke, the truck commander.

"You can stop driving like we're in the X-games, Paguio," said Spc. Preston Stone, the vehicle's gunner to his driver.

"Hey, my bad man," shouted back Pvt. Mark Paguio, the driver.

Their mission in eastern Afghanistan was to ride out with the Afghan National Army to a series of villages north of the base to deliver humanitarian aid, gather intelligence and conduct village assessments.

There was a warning about a possible suicide bomber in the area, nothing new for the cavalry scouts of 3rd Platoon, Anvil Troop, 1st Squadron, 91st Cavalry Regiment,

173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team, from Schweinfurt, Germany.

The "Death Dealers" were led by the Afghan National Army's lightly armored Ford Ranger pickups.

The silence was broken by the muffled sound of a dull thud in the distance, which didn't register with Heinicke at first, because of the thick armor practically soundproofing his vehicle.

"Did you hear something up there?" Heinicke called up to Stone in the turret.

"Um... yeah, maybe," Stone replied, leaning out of his turret so he could hear. "It might have been an explosion. I couldn't tell."

Nothing unusual being reported on the radio, Heinicke remembered, thinking to himself.

His vehicle was still at the backside of a hill, blocking his view of the forward group.

When they rolled around the other side of the hill, everyone in the vehicle immediately noticed the landscape change. From an open, rolling plain with the occasional hill, the terrain abruptly became a stretch of sharp rises and dips dense with trees obscuring anything farther than 100 feet.

"A bad place to get ambushed," Heinicke said as the sturdy trucks rumbled their way along the dirt path, trying to avoid the sharp, sizeable rocks that seemed to jut up behind every blind rise and drop off.

"We're taking small-arms contact up front," a calm voice crackled through the radio mounted on the vehicle's dash board. "We've got two downed ANA vehicles."

As if on cue, successive bursts of explosions and fire from about a half-dozen automatic weapons were heard from ahead.

"Get up on that ridgeline," Heinicke

shouted at Paguio, who instantly gunned the engine.

As everyone lurched from a sharp bump on the way up the steep embankment, the platoon sergeant's HMMWV carrying the platoon medic could be seen rushing up from the rear of the convoy to aid any wounded ANA.

Stone quickly scanned for targets with his Mark-19 automatic grenade launcher. All he could see was a billowing column of black smoke.

Spc. Jayme Pohovey, a medic, exited the HMMWV and headed for the stricken ANA vehicle. The gunner behind him provided cover fire with his 240-B machine gun sending a steady stream of brass to the ground.

The medic knelt next to a wounded ANA officer, pulling out his aid bag, oblivious to the heavy fire around him.

"Okay what's wrong," he asked the officer, who was calm despite his injury.

"My stomach hurts," the Afghan replied, moving his bloody hand away from his abdomen, revealing a gaping stomach wound. The commander suddenly grabbed the medic's arm. "Helicopter, send helicopter," he said.

"You're going to be alright," Pohovey said trying to sound reassuring as he immediately cut away the man's shirt. His men looked back at Pohovey pleadingly. "He's going to be okay," he shouted at them.

More than 40 ANA soldiers fanned out around the convoy. As the fight escalated, several of them were wounded as they defended the position where Pohovey was bandaging the badly wounded officer's face and stomach. (Continued on Pg. 4, Ambush)

Garrison News

First InfoX addresses ethnic hair care, gym ID cards, more

The first **InfoX** meeting was held at the Club Veneto July 25. **InfoX**, which stands for "information exchange," was formerly known as the Community Action Council.

"The new name reflects the increased emphasis on getting out up-to-date community information to key publics, especially to family readiness groups and rear detachment leaders," according to Renee Citron, deputy garrison commander. "Concerns will still be solicited and solutions found. Community leaders will still be on hand to use their experience and guidance to cut through red tape and fix what needs fixing."

In addition to presenting awards and putting out updates on a variety of community activities and initiatives, community leaders provided answers to the following concerns:

Topic: Hair care for ethnic customers

Discussion: How and when can AAFES accommodate hair care for women of color? Customers frequenting the AAFES Family Hair Care Center have had trouble with having their needs met. Also, AAFES does not maintain a stock of professional hair care products required by women of color.

Responding Agency: Army, Air Force Exchange Service:

AAFES is organizing ethnic hair training with our European trainer, Dorothy Wilson. She will be traveling throughout our Italy centers to provide refresher training for our entire beauty shop staff.

Ms. Doty is also a vendor representative for ethnic hair care products and will recommend the best items available. We are currently looking for hair models. To be a model, please contact the beauty shop in the PX Mall or our Family Hair Care Center.

Topic: AAFES theater replacement movies

Discussion: This weekend "Ratatouille" was expected to play. Due to Customs, the movie did not arrive. However, the movies slated to run in its place are not comparable

in rating. This also occurred two weeks ago with the movie "Surfs Up."

Responding Agency: AAFES: Ideally we want to substitute an equivalent movie rating for the delayed movie whenever possible, unfortunately when this situation occurs as it did with "Surfs Up" several weeks ago, we had no equivalent rated movies available.

Our substitute movies consist of movies available on that particular week. AAFES movie theaters generally do not have additional movies available to show when such events occur; however, we have ordered more movies for distribution. If this situation occurs we will try to have similarly rated movies readily available for substitution.

Topic: ID Cards Required in the Gym

Discussion: Why does the new gym policy require ID Cards for entrance?

Responding Agency: Morale, Welfare and Recreation

We have recently upgraded our systems to capture information for our facilities. The lengthy process of either keeping a sign-in sheet, does not meet the DA requirements.

Installation Status Report data is used to justify funding requirements to improve the condition of our bases. The only way to get accurate ISR data for our sports and recreation facilities is to swipe I.D. cards. Without this data, DA will not provide us the money to purchase equipment.

If the issue is storage, we recommend the daily use lockers that may be used to store belongings.

Topic: Soggiorno fact sheet

Discussion: There is much confusion around the soggiorno process. Incoming personnel have received conflicting or unclear information. We understand that the soggiorno system is under negotiation, but in the mean time, many questions remain about soggiornos.

The soggiorno/visa is a foreign concept to many of us. Is there an information paper explaining the Soggiorno process?

Responding Agency: Directorate of Human Resources:

The soggiorno situation is indeed confusing, complex, and changing.

There is a fact sheet that answers most of the common questions and it will be made available during inprocessing.

DHR has an ongoing program to create and maintain a database for soggiorno information that will allow reminder letters to family members. We hope to have it operational by the end of the summer.

Topic: Shuttle bus services to Aviano for Space-A Travel

Discussion: Many family members are interested in traveling on space-a travel. Is it possible for the shuttle bus service to obtain transport to Aviano for this purpose?

Responding Agency: Directorate of Logistics:

Government vehicles can not be used by family readiness groups for taking family members to catch military space available flights or any other personal errands. Army and USAREUR regulations governing the usage of these vehicles specifically prohibit other than official use.

Currently the Central Processing Facility operates a contracted transportation service to the Marco Polo Airport in Venice. While this transportation is for the convenience of official travelers, any U.S. ID card holder is authorized to use the service on a space available basis.

Awards or appreciation

Awards were presented to the Volunteers of the Month, John Parker, CYS Sports and Fitness; Ellen Eldridge, Boys Scouts Troop 295; and Abigail Vallery, CYS SAS Program.

Scrolls of Appreciation were presented to two community agencies for their outstanding customer service during the InfoX forum. Scrolls were presented to

AAFES Villaggio Shoppette and the DPW Eco-Center. Iolanda Borsos accepted for AAFES and Reginal Gillespie accepted for DPW.

Next Meeting

The next **InfoX** meeting is scheduled for 10 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 22 in the Club Veneto. This is an open forum and individuals are free to voice their issues, concerns and questions during the session.

InfoX is broadcast live on AFN 106 radio *The Eagle*. It is also available on AFN decoder channel 142. Radio listeners will still be given the opportunity to participate and everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend.

Tight fit only temporary with new health center construction

By Jon Fleshman
USAG Vicenza Public Affairs

If the current Caserma Ederle layout can be compared to a size seven shoe trying to accommodate a size 13 foot, then fitting a new 12,600 square-meter health care facility into the installation may sound like a shoemaker's ultimate challenge.

"The construction of the Enhanced Health Service Center on the sports field across from the present clinic will produce some temporary inconveniences," explained Robert Fitzsimmons, a project manager for the Transformation Management Construction Office. "However, the long-term benefits for the health and well being of our Soldiers and Army Families will far outweigh the short-term disruptions that are part of major construction projects like this one."

It is being built to replace aging infrastructure and to gather in one convenient location the various health-care

facilities scattered throughout the caserma, Fitzsimmons said. The center will bring under one roof primary care, orthopedics, women's health services, pharmacy, radiology, physical therapy, optometry, social work and dental services.

"Not only will this facility follow all the U.S. and Italian legal and technical procedures required by the laws of both countries, it will be an environmentally friendly building that will meet many more of the environmental standards than those usually required," Fitzsimmons said.

Though service members and their families will continue to rely on Vicenza's San Bortolo Hospital for the same kind of quality care they receive there now, the new center will provide some services such as orthopedic and general surgery that are currently available at the Landstuhl facility in Germany, said Lt. Col Stephen Bentz of the Caserma Ederle health clinic. As is the case now, the center will employ Italian medical personnel alongside their American counterparts to



Engineer rendering of the Enhanced Health Service Center

serve Soldiers and their Families in outpatient and birthing services.

Work on a multipurpose sports field in the North 40 between the Eco Center and the prison should be complete before other playing fields are closed for the health service center construction, said Greg Vallery, chief of the engineering services section of the directorate of public works. The track and sports field east of the construction site will remain open.

The contract is expected to be awarded to

an Italian company by the end of August, Fitzsimmons said, with a ceremonial groundbreaking by the end of September. He said site preparation should begin by the end of this calendar year. Three years after that, the Enhanced Health Service Center should be ready to open its doors.

As for the temporary tight fit, the Southern European Task Force Airborne's master plan has designed the future installations to make that foot feel really comfortable.

Garrison News

Tighten up post

Lifeguards not babysitters

By Command Sgt. Maj. Keith Filipp
USAG Vicenza Command Sergeant Major

When the temperature rises, more families jump in the pool to cool off.

Recently one family came to the Villaggio pool with two young children. They put life vests on the children, left them in the shallow end while they both went off to enjoy themselves at the deep end of the pool.

While they were away from their children, one took off the life vest, could not swim and was struggling to stay afloat, when the lifeguard rescued her.

Local MWR Pool Rules require that children nine years and under shall be accompanied/supervised by a parent or guardian (16 years or older) at all times and that children using floatation devices will not be left unattended. A parent or guardian will closely supervise them.

It is also highly recommended and a good rule of thumb would be that the parent or supervising adult bringing the child to the pool be no more than arms length away from a child who either can not swim or is wearing a safety vest.

The life guards are provided at our MWR pools to help keep everyone safe but parents have that primary responsibility when bringing their Family to swim.

Below are a list of our posted pool rules;

1. Children nine years and under shall be accompanied/supervised by a parent or guardian (16 years or older) at all times.
2. All patrons must take a shower before entering the pool.
3. Personal floatation devices, meeting the U.S. Coast Guard specifications, are authorized. Final discretion to be determined by staff.
4. Children using floatation devices will not be left unattended. A parent or guardian must closely supervise them.
5. Each hour there will be a mandatory 10 minute break for everyone in the pool or 15 minutes during heavy usage. The lifeguards will announce the pool break.
6. Food and beverages, excluding water/Gatorade in plastic containers, are not permitted in the pool enclosure.

7. No smoking.
8. No diving allowed in the shallow area.
9. No running on the pool deck.
10. Pool staff is required to review and change any situation that may jeopardize the safety of persons in the facility.

Another disturbing trend is parents forcing a child into the pool who is clearly afraid of the water. The child is seen screaming and crying while the parent ignores them. This is not the way to



The Ederle Inn (above) and Villaggio pools are the perfect place to cool off on a hot summer day, but there are rules and regulations to follow to ensure the safety of all users. (Outlook file photo)

teach children to swim.

If your child needs help learning to swim the CYS SKIES *Unlimited* program has added a fourth session to this years swim program. This session of swimming instruction is scheduled Monday thru Thursday, August 6-16.

Morning classes will be held in the Villaggio Pool and evening classed in the Ederle Inn Pool.

Children who have not been enrolled in session 1-3 may register now at the CYS Central Registration. Call 634 7219 for complete information.

...and missing military ID cards

All, I have had a lot of questions regarding lost and found military ID cards. The first question is "What are the specifics on when to report an ID card missing?" The answer is that as you soon as notice you have lost your ID card, or cannot account for it, you need to report it lost. Go to the DES office to let them know so a report can be generated and then you receive a new ID.

The second question "What does one do when they find the ID card they initially reported lost, but have already received the new ID replacement?" The answer is that individuals should turn in the old ID card that was initially reported lost, to the MP Station so that it may be accounted for. Once it has been accounted for it will be turned into the ID card section and shredded. The one reported lost will already be flagged in IACS and is therefore no good.

The third common question is "What do you

do if you find the lost ID it before you receive a new ID? Who do you notify then?" The answer is that if you have reported the ID card lost it will already be flagged with IACS – this means it can no longer be used. After your ID card has been reported it is too late to go back. You must receive a new ID card to replace the flagged one. If a person attempts to keep their ID card and not receive a new one, the old ID card will be confiscated at the gate when it is scanned. Again, the notification would be through the MP station.

Finally, if you have reported a lost or stolen ID card, you must attend the Lost/Stolen ID card class. however, if you find the ID card that you reported lost or stolen prior to being issued a new ID card and turn the old ID card into the MPs, the MPs will mark your name off the list, and you will not have to attend the class.

DoD Increases R&R Policy

The Department of Defense has approved a policy change to the U.S. Central Command Rest and Recuperation Leave Program, increasing the time provided to military service members for rest and recuperation in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

The policy change, signed by David S. C. Chu, undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness, increases the R&R leave period from 15 to 18 chargeable days for those service members deploying to the OEF and OIF area of operations for 15 months.

The amended policy became effective July 13, 2007, applies to military personnel only and is not retroactive. Only service members who took leave on or after July 13, 2007, may take 18 days of leave.

Service members will not be charged for their travel days. The R&R leave begins when the service member arrives at the commercial airport nearest their leave destination.

Service members serving one-year tours will continue to receive 15 days of chargeable R&R leave.

The amended R&R policy came as a result of the recent DoD change to the rotation and mobilization policy increasing some theater deployments to 15-month tours.

Intervention services U.S. Army Health Clinic Vicenza

Not all bug sprays are the same!

It is very important to read the labels on bug repellents, to make sure they are approved for use on children, specifically looking for the concentration of DEET in the product. There has been a lot of controversy over using products with DEET in them on children.

The American Academy of Pediatrics states that products with between a 10-30 percent concentration of DEET are safe for children and adults (examples: Bite Blocker, Off! Skintastic, and Avons Skin-So-Soft are specially formulated with a lower concentration of DEET). However, products with DEET should *never* be used on a child under the age of 2 months.

Guidelines for using repellents that contain DEET include:

- Apply sparingly to your toddlers exposed skin, *not* to the skin under clothes
- Don't put repellent close to toddlers eyes, mouth, hands, or over cuts
- Wash the repellent off with soap and water when you come inside
- Apply repellent to clothing rather than skin, but be sure to wash clothing before clothing is worn again

Other recommendations to limit your toddlers exposure to bug bites are to dress your toddler in light-colored clothing, wear long sleeves/pants, and avoid scented soaps or lotions.

Finally, you may want to try a natural repellent, but be sure to *read the label first* to make sure it is safe for use on children under the age of 3, some natural repellents include: Citronella Oil, soybean oil, castor oil, rosemary oil, lemongrass oil, cedar oil, peppermint oil, clove oil, geranium oil, lavender, and Neem oil to name a few.



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WIC Nutrition Tip

Are you trying to get five-a-day into your diet? Here is some help:

- a. Add bananas to cereal (both hot and cold)
- b. Take two pieces of fruit to work, for an a.m. and p.m. snack
- c. Add chopped broccoli to pasta
- d. Buy a fruit or vegetable you have never tried
- e. Slice a tart apple or a firm pear and add it to your salad

WIC is a nutrition and supplemental food program. Call WIC Overseas at 634-6258 for more information.

Anvil and ANA ambushed, strike back



(Left) Staff Sgt. Brent Adams aims at insurgents entrenched behind a hill while Pfc. Henry Lenius provides cover. (Below) Sgt. Roy Heinicke, calls out to his gunner to cover a passing Afghan National Army vehicle with suppressive fire during a firefight with insurgents. (Bottom) Seconds after being hit by a rocket-propelled grenade, an ANA truck goes up in flames when the convoy of ANA and 173rd ABCT vehicles were ambushed.



(continued from Page 1)

The enemy weapons fire had largely died down; especially after the HMMWV gunners trained their weapons on the enemy and began firing. The rapid chatter of concussive shells hitting the insurgent's fighting positions pulverized rocks and felled trees.

All the armored HMMWV were now on line ready to perform a bounding maneuver on the enemy. Moving forward by sections, rise-by-rise, they slowly began gaining ground on the retreating insurgents.

The order came to provide "recon by fire" on the hill, to discover if the enemy had taken up a defensive position there.

The job went to Stone, who fired off several 40mm grenade rounds onto the hilltop at a vanishing enemy.

The vehicle crews dismounted and began sweeping the area along with the ANA on foot. Several water canteens, an RPG and a jacket were all that was left of the attackers.

Nobody was taking any chances and the ANA began setting up a mortar position on the ridgeline facing the steep hill.

An hour later, the area had been swept clear and the ANA, assisted by scouts, had established a good defensive posture on the ridgeline. Anvil Troop's 2nd Platoon had diverted from their original mission and established a helicopter landing zone.

The Afghan commander had been medically evacuated to FOB Orgun-E for surgery. Nine Afghan soldiers had been wounded but they were all alive.

It had been completely quiet for the last hour but an Afghan lieutenant wasn't convinced that the fighters were gone. He wanted to launch a few mortar rounds over the hill to make sure and then send in his men to clear it. The Afghan Soldiers began to make their way down the slope of the ridge to the base of the hill.

Suddenly, shots rang out again, ricocheting dangerously close to the mortar team and several scouts. A concentrated burst from several machine guns sent whizzes and cracks right past them sending everyone running for cover.

"Contact," yelled Staff Sgt. Brent Adams, a scout section leader, as he reflexively launched a grenade from his M-203 and loaded another while taking cover behind his vehicle.

Bullets were audible as they tore through the air near their position.

"Hear that 'cat meow' noise?" Adams excitedly asked his radio operator, who had taken cover with him. "You know they're close when you hear that."

On the far side of the ridge, Heinicke had been standing behind the hood of his vehicle. He had just opened up his last pack of smokes and laid it on the hood, when several rocks

popped up in the air near his location and he heard the whiz of several well-placed rounds fly over his head.

"They were just waiting up there," he said to Stone, ducking behind the hood. "They aimed those shots."

Stone was getting ready to blast something, searching for some positive identification of the enemy. He had to be careful, because the ANA were now streaming up the hill like ants. Down below him, behind the ANA, he saw a flash from a weapon firing as the rounds bounced off a tree next to him.

Somebody moved behind a bush. He caught it out of the corner of his eye and aimed his weapon. A figure with a beard and non-military clothing stepped out from behind it. Stone fired, and the grenade exploded near the man, but missed. The man took off running but was spotted by an Afghan soldier who raised his weapon and unloaded on him.

Now inside his vehicle, the big noncommissioned officer known for his jokes, saw the insurgent take a firing stance and aim at the mortar team. Quickly stepping out of his vehicle, using the door for cover, Adams took aim and fired. Missing his first two shots, he found his intended target on the third try. The man walked a few more steps before he fell for the last time.

Nearing the top of the hill, the Afghan Soldiers began a heavy assault, firing RPG's directly into the midst of the retreating insurgents, rocking the ground again and again. A dense cloud of grey smoke rose up, which was penetrated by the streaks of red tracers as the Afghans raked the area with a spray of machinegun-fire.

All during the firefight, the Afghan mortar team had been sending round after round raining down on the enemy position, braving a steady stream of machine-gun fire aimed directly at them.

When the smoke behind the hill finally cleared, the machinegun-fire stopped. The insurgents had fled. Heinicke looked around for his cigarettes, but couldn't find his pack. He'd forgotten he'd left it on the hood during the confusion.

"Anybody got any smokes?" he asked with annoyance as they rolled up the hill.

The hill had been cleared, and 1st Lt. Vinny Dueñas, the 3rd platoon leader, made the assessment that it had been a force of about 20 fighters, operating in two teams. The second attack had been cover fire for the main body to retreat.

When they recovered the body of an insurgent who had been shot, he was identified as a low-level Taliban commander, responsible for a unit of about 30 to 40 men.

When the site had been cleared, the



convoy moved to a nearby village, where the ANA and ANP went through and searched it to be sure the insurgents hadn't taken refuge there. They were nowhere to be found.

That was good enough for Heinicke as he leaned against his vehicle late that afternoon with a borrowed cigarette hanging from his lips. The scout platoon had been providing a cordon for the Afghan military searching the village.

They wouldn't be back for dinner that

night, but everyone from 3rd Platoon would be coming back safe and sound, and none of the ANA had been killed, while insurgents in the area had lost a unit commander.

"We really turned it around on them," Heinicke said. "What was meant as an ambush turned out to be a victory (for us)."

It was not only a victory for the scouts of the 173rd ABCT, but for the ANA, emerging victorious from yet another battle with the Taliban.

Mariners' fans support Sky Soldiers



Bud Cheatham, father of Pvt. Robert Chatham, 4-319 Field Artillery, 173rd ABCT and his family, show their support for Sky Soldiers at a recent Seattle Mariners game. (Contributed by Gina Little, Bamberg FRSA)



Sgt. Emmanuel Campos, 2nd Platoon, 13th MP Company, prepares to assemble a OE-254 antenna as part of the two weeks training at Camp Darby

MPs hone skills on Camp Darby

Story and photos by Chiara Mattiolo
USAG Livorno Public Affairs

Camp Darby is more than a beautiful place to live and enjoy the pleasure of a great beach and camp ground. While hundreds of tourists are spending family time camping and enjoying the American Beach in Tirrenia, Soldiers stationed here keep training to hone their professionalism.

Military Police from 2nd Platoon, 13th MP Company are performing their training in Camp Darby for two weeks.

"Most people are not aware of the training opportunities that are available down here" said 2nd Lt. Amanda King, officer in charge. "Livorno gives us better access to training areas. There is a great setup here and the area is very similar to Kosovo."

The Folgore Brigade in Pisa hosted part

of the MP's exercise, making this another great chance to enhance good community relations and joint training with the Italian nationals. King explained the Folgore representatives expressed their desire of performing a joint exercise in the near future.

"We trained not only here on post, but we were hosted by the Folgore in Pisa to train on the obstacle course in their field" she said. Adding, "their support was exceptional."

During the training exercise they practiced on how to mount, setup and disassemble an OE-254 antenna.

"This type of practice is very important, we need to be ready at all times" said Sgt. 1st Class Roderick Dowdell, platoon sergeant "This type of antenna allows the people back at the base to keep constant contact with the Soldiers."

Moms Out, Kids In: New summer program from the Chapel

Story by Robert Hampton
Special to the Outlook

July is usually a time for picnics, 4th of July celebrations, little league games and Vacation Bible School. This year, however, the Chapel offered an alternative to the traditional VBS program.

A team of four students came from the states for four weeks to provide Bible-based children's programs at the chapel and in neighborhood backyards in the Villagio.

The team came to USAG Vicenza as part of a summer missions European pilot program from Military Children's Ministry, a partnership between Cadence International and Child Evangelism Fellowship.

Based in Englewood, CO, MCM provides children's ministries to other military in installations such as Ft Hood in Texas and Ft Leonard Wood in Missouri, but not in Europe until this summer.

For the first two weeks the team held five Moms Out, Kids In, (Continued below)



An MCM student from California, illustrates a Bible story through the use of puppets. (Photo by Kevin Yapp)

Schweinfurt Families prove 'I Can Do It'

By Kimberly Gearhart and Sandra Wilson
USAG Schweinfurt Public Affairs

SCHWEINFURT, Germany—Being the one left behind during a deployment is stressful. How you deal with that stress determines how well you deal with your spouse's absence.

The U.S. Army Garrison Schweinfurt Army Community Service realizes finding creative, fun and constructive ways to relieve stress can be difficult on your own. Therefore, they have stepped in with the "I

Can Do It" series of classes.

Family members can sign up for classes in basic auto repair, bowling and even paintball.

Recently, family members visited the Conn Paintball field here to try their hand with the rapidly growing sport.

"We're teaching them how to hold a marker, fire and to be safe, while they have fun," said Holger "Stoney" Steinmueller, a volunteer instructor on the field, whose day job as a garrison firefighter occasionally leaves him time to add to his 15 years of paintball experience.

After learning the basics of paintball

marker use and safety, participants then worked on movement and firing. Some came for the fun; others to learn a new skill.

"It's important to get out and experience new things. The Army is so good about creating these kinds of opportunities. It's exciting," said Jennifer Haller, a family member with the 1st Squadron, 91st Cavalry.

Besides paintball, family members are also taking on vehicle care and repair through the ACS program.

At the Auto Skills Center, participants gathered around a car in the repair garage with Thomas Woditsch, program director for the Auto Skills Center, while he demonstrated fluid and battery checks, oil changes, as well as brake pad and tire inspections.

Woditsch's staff provides training on any tool in the shop, and they will also assist in repairs when people work on their own wheels, such as Angela Mejias, whose husband is deployed with the 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry Regiment.

"I want to know how to fix my own car," Mejias said.

Her confidence is exactly what the "I Can Do It" series is about, said garrison ACS officials, adding that such classes also help families de-stress.

(from above) a three-hour block of time where children heard Bible stories, played games, sang songs, did crafts, all with a biblical theme. It also gave a much needed break to moms (and a few dads).

"I was able to do something I haven't done for a long time, go to lunch with my husband", said one mom. "It was a good break for me and I knew my kids were in a Christian environment", said another.

As the team led activities for children ages 4-12 years old, the chapel provided child care for the younger ones three years old and under, a popular addition for young mothers.

According to Ch Bill Schneider, garrison chaplain, "The MOKIs gave the children an opportunity to be [at the chapel], to share in a time of song, to share in a Bible lesson, to share in some games and some crafts. All of them were very positively focused, having a biblical message and the parents knew that their kids were well taken care of."

During the second two weeks the team held three Backyard Bible Clubs each day, two in the Villagio and one at the Chapel. At the Club, the children memorized scripture verses, heard in-depth Bible stories, sang songs and had a lot of fun.

One of the highlights for them was seeing Bible stories acted out by the team. Said one mother, "When my kids come back home they are happier. My daughter is singing Christian songs about Jesus, instead of songs from cartoons."

Another opportunity that came along for MCM happened at the elementary school. With all of the deployments and dads being gone, fathers have a need to see their children and children need to talk to their dads.

So MCM brought in a video camera and 55 children made dvd video messages that will be sent to their dads downrange. The children took great pride in coloring their dvd label and envelope and sending out their "I love you, dad" messages.

All in all, this new endeavor proved to be a great success and the chapel staff have plans to bring an MCM team back next year.



Jennifer Haller practices firing under the watchful eye of Holger Steinmueller during the "I Can Do It" paintball class at U.S. Army Garrison Schweinfurt. Use of the paintball field is free to family members of deployed Soldiers on Thursdays from 1 to 5 p.m. (Photo by Kimberly Gearhart)

Out & About



By Dorothy Spagnuolo

Vicenza Outdoor Rec

Guided tours and horse and carriage rides in Vicenza

Show off your adopted home to your friends and family by taking a guided tour of Vicenza's historical center and villas. Tours take place on Saturday afternoon, on foot, or Sunday morning, by bus, depending on the type of tour chosen. Full details and booking in English at www.vicenzae.org click on *Together with Palladio in the great Vicenza set*. Tours can be taken through Oct. 14.

A horse and carriage ride can be taken round the main sites of downtown Vicenza on a Friday or Saturday in the evening from 8 through 23:30 p.m. The start and finish point is from Piazza Biade, cost is 15 euro with a maximum of 4 persons in the carriage. Tours can be taken until the end of Sept.

Craft market

In the *Marostica* castle, located in the main square of the town, over 50 vendors will be selling their wares to include furniture, ceramics, blown glass and paintings. Open everyday, closed Mondays from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. and 3:30-7:30 p.m., Friday and Saturday until 10

p.m. until Sept. 9, entrance is free.

Medieval event in Feltre

In the walled town of *Feltre*, province of Belluno, there are four historical districts participating at this medieval event: Santo Stefano, Duomo, Port'Oria and Castello, each with its own colors and symbols challenge each other, in order to conquer the much sought after palio (*banner*). Program – August 4 at 6 p.m. a medieval market will open and the historical center and be invaded by people in medieval costume and street artists will perform, a medieval merry-go-round will go into operation for the enjoyment of the children.

In the evening starting at 9 p.m. in Piazza Maggiore there will be a great number of flag-wavers, nobles, torch-light processions, bow-shooting and relay contests between the four districts to end the day's events will be a firework display.

On August 5 at 8 a.m. hot-air balloon rides over the city; 10 a.m. the possibility to be present at the traditional Mass, *this is in medieval costume*, with the presence of *His Excellency the Bishop* who will bless the horses; noon: procession

in medieval costume; 3 p.m.: hot-air balloon rides for children accompanied by an adult; 4 p.m. final procession of the individuals participating in the contests who will arrive at the site were the palio will take place at 5 p.m. and includes a horse race, bow-shooting and tug of war. There will be an entrance fee to most events. Feltre is located 78 km from Vicenza.

A musical, a regatta, art and Vasco

The musical 'Peter Pan' will be held in the grounds of Villa Barchessa in the town of *Limena*, province of Padova, on Sept. 8 at 9:30 p.m. Tickets are available on line www.happyticket.it or www.ticketone.it and cost 23 euro; 'Fulvio Pendini, faces of Padova' is the name of the art exhibition being held in the Musei Civici agli Eremitani in *Padova* until Nov. 11. The exhibition which is dedicated to the artists first centenary of this birth, shows his paintings which are oil or fresco works he that he left in private and public collections. Open each day from 9 a.m.-7 p.m. closed on Mondays, entrance fee: 10 euro.

The Pelestrina Regatta, one of Veice's lesser known regattas takes place on Aug. 5 with a start time of 4:30 p.m. The island of *Pelestrina* is one of Venice's islands with narrow canals and houses painted in strikingly bright, cheerful colors and has been populated largely by carpenters and fishermen since ancient times. The best view of the regatta is from the shores of the island itself.

Vasco Rossi will perform in the Verona soccer stadium on Sept. 19 at 9 p.m. tickets cost from 30 to 50 euro; gates open at 3:30 p.m.

Safari and park

The safari and Faunistico Park are located between Bussolengo and Pastrengo, province of Verona. On the safari the entrance is by car or bus only and will take just over an hour to visit. A visit to the Park, on foot, will take just over 2 hours, apart from the animals also find an aquarium, a tropical conservatory and a dinosaur park. Tickets: 12 years of age or older 16 euro; children, 3 to 12 years old 13 euro. Open every day from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Dogs are not allowed and convertible cars are prohibited. For full details and directions visit www.parconaturaviva.it

When in Rome

When visiting the sites of *Rome* add the following attraction to your list of things to do – called the 'Time Elevator Roma,' this multi-sensorial attraction will tell you 3000 years of Roman History, from Romulus and Ramos up to the present day. The Time Elevator is a 4-dimensional attraction that puts you at the heart of the action so real that you feel part of history. You will join Romulus and Ramos on their ride into the forest, as your seat moves in time with them; you will see Rome from above, flying over the city, watching it burn; through a headset that is provided, English language is available, you can hear Brutus plotting to kill Caesar. For full information on prices and times go to www.time-elevator.it



Marostica

Photo by Laura Kreider

Classified Ads

NOTE: The Outlook does not take classifieds and we only print ads placed during the last week.

Sellers must place ads on www.vicenzamwr.com.

Buyers must go to the Vicenza MWR Web site, www.vicenzamwr.com for details about items for sale below.

Toaster. Double slice simple toaster, \$2

Reduced Price English Bulldog 10 months old for sale. Needs a good home. Asking \$500. Price includes kennel and toys. She has had all of her shots.

Mountain Bike. 2005 Kona Coiler Primo Downhill, excellent condition, \$1500 OBO

Air conditioner. 1 year old. Great condition. \$250 OBO.

Baby Travel System: Stroller, Car Seat, Base. Like new, only used a few times.

Trek Jack Bike. Like new. Front suspension, hardtail rear. \$400 OBO

Cannondale Bike. Like new. Front suspension, hardtail rear. \$400 OBO

Tower Fan or Fan on Stand. I am looking for a 220 volt tower fan or a fan on a stand. Just needs to be in good working condition! Willing to pay about \$10.

21"-JVC multisystem TV. With remote and box. \$30

Blender-never used. 12-speed, 120V, \$12

Portable air conditioner for sale. Rarely used portable unit on wheels..Great condition asking \$250.

Air conditioners - MUST SELL. Two air conditioning units for sale. 220 voltage, portable. 1300 Watts and 12000 BTU. Used it for one summer. Another, same style unit but not as much power. BEST OFFER

Many book sets: 6 Hardcover Books. \$20 - All in Excellent condition. 7 Hardback Books \$25 - all in great condition. 9 softcover books \$20 - All in great condition. 7 Softcover books. \$20 - All in excellent condition. 7 more softcover books. \$20 - All in excellent condition. 9 Detective Novels: \$25 - All in excellent condition.

Box of 45 Books: \$30 - a mixed bunch of softcover books mostly good to excellent.

Smart Car - 2001 \$5,000 or make an offer. * Only 18,600 miles on it - runs perfectly.

Lancia Thema 1992, 2.0 liters

engine, 153hp, A/C, 142000km. Timing belt was done at 93000km., power doors and windows. Very well maintained car, asking \$2500.

1992 Jeep Cherokee Laredo 4.0 6 cyl, automatic trans, air-condition, ski and bicycle rack, 189K mi excellent condition. \$ 2,500 OBO.

Two free rabbits. Cage, food, bedding included. Family returned to the states

2005 VOLVO V70/T5 station wagon - \$24,000 OBO. Black leather interior, heated seats, moon roof, luggage rack, TAN, Automatic

TRANSFORMER - MUST SELL 2000 watts - less than 5 months old. \$70 OBO.

1997 Fiat Punto, 1.1 lt, 72000 km, blue, 5 doors, manual, radio and cassette player, in very good condition. Asking Euro 2000,00.

Full face motorcycle helmet \$40
2001 Ford Escape XLT, V6, Automatic, 4 door, Pw rocks & windows, sun roof, leather seats, 6 disc changer, roof rack, excellent condition. \$9500

Complete Sound System: 5 Cerwin-Vega speakers. JVC RX8040 receiver, variable voltage. \$400 OBO.

Now Showing

Caserma Ederle Theater

July 31	CLOSED	
Aug. 1	Hairspray (PG)	6 p.m.
Aug. 2	The Condemned (R)	6 p.m.
Aug. 3	The Simpsons Movie (PG13)	6 p.m.
	Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End (PG13)	9 p.m.
Aug. 4	The Simpsons Movie (PG13)	3 p.m.
	Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End (PG13)	6 p.m.
Aug. 5	The Simpsons Movie (PG13)	6 p.m.
	Mr. Books (R)	6 p.m.
Aug. 6	CLOSED	
Aug. 7	CLOSED	

Camp Darby Theater

Aug. 2	Gracie (PG13)	6 p.m.
Aug. 3	Pirates of the Caribbean: At World's End (PG13)	6 p.m.
Aug. 4	Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix (PG13)	6P.M.
Aug. 5	Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix (PG13)	2P.M.

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

Community notes

Saturday childcare

The Child Development Center, bldg 395, is open for hourly care on Saturdays from 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

Reservations must be made two weeks in advance. Walk-in care will be provided if space is available.

The cost is \$4 per hour or parents can use their deployment card to pay for care.

For details call 634-7559.

Lost or stolen ID card security, awareness seminar

Anyone in the Vicenza military community who loses or has his ID Card stolen is required to attend a seminar.

The training is held every Thursday from 3:30-5:30 p.m. in the Central Processing Facility (bldg 311) classroom.

CYS notes

CYS has added two more programs starting in July.

There are now two free Family Readiness Group meeting nights each month.

The procedures to book meeting space and childcare remain the same.

Please note that requests for meeting locations as well as the child names from the FRG Leader and/or FRSA must still be received by the first of the month in order to make the system work best.

Call CYS at 634-7740 for details.

CYS soccer season

Soccer season enrollment is Aug. 1-24. The cost is \$36 for ages 3-18. The season begins Sept. 4. Youth must be registered CYS members, have valid ID card and SSN, 2 Emergency Contact phone numbers and a current health assessment. A soccer skills clinic

will be held August 6-10. Enrollment for the clinic begins July 16. For information call CYS Sports and Fitness 634-6151

Youth Basketball clinic

Enrollment is underway for the Aug. 13-17 Basketball clinic for ages 8-18.

Youth must bring two complete emergency contact information sheets, Social Security number for child, valid ID card and current health assessment. Cost is \$25. Register at CYS Central Registration, bldg. 108 or call 634-7219 for details.

Youth soccer clinic

CYS Youth Sports is holding a soccer clinic for youth ages 8-18, Aug. 6-10, 9 a.m.-noon on the Villaggio sports field. Cost is \$25 and child must be registered with CYS to participate.

Contact CYS for details. Enrollment by July 31 at CYS Central Registration Office, Family Readiness Center Bldg. 108.

Share your college knowledge

College Night, hosted by MWR and DoDDS, seeks college students and graduates to share their experiences with Vicenza High students and parents Oct. 18.

If you are interested in sharing knowledge about your college, contact Sarah Penhallegon, 6345087, by Aug. 20.

Youth Italian classes

Central Texas College and SKIES Unlimited are offering Gateway to Italian for youth.

For children ages 5-12, classes are Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9-10 a.m.

Classes for youth ages 13-18 are held from Mondays,

Wednesdays and Fridays, 9-11 a.m.

Two sessions are offered for each age group: July 23-Aug. 3 and Aug. 6-17.

For information or to register call Child and Youth Services Central Registration at 634-7219.

Vicenza Health Clinic hours change

Beginning Aug. 2, the Thursday Vicenza Health Clinic hours will be 1-4:30 p.m. Training will continue to be conducted on Thursday morning.

Vicenza Education Center notes

Registration for Term 5 begins Aug. 6. Term 5 classes run from Aug. 20-Oct. 20.

Soldiers using tuition assistance must go to the *GoArmyEd.com* Web site to enroll.

The next FAST GT improvement class is Aug. 6-24, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-10 a.m.

Contact the education counselor for details at 634-8933 or vicenza.edcenter@us.army.mil.

Gateway to Italian conversational language courses are Aug. 27-Oct. 20.

For details contact Angelo Sibilla, Central Texas College senior foreign language program manager at angelo.sibilla@europe.ctcd.edu or call 634-7698.

Prevention of sexual harassment for Italian employees

The Equal Employment Opportunity office is conducting Prevention of Sexual Harassment training in Italian for Caserma Ederle Italian employees Sept. 6.

Classes are one hour and are offered at 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. in the Ederle Theater.

This training is mandatory and required annually.

Call Ric Medina, EEO, at 634-7084 for details.

CYS tennis clinic

Child and Youth Services is offering a Tennis Clinic for youth ages 6-18, Aug. 13-14, 5-6 p.m.

Texas Senior Champion, Col. (Dr.) James Houston is instructing. All participants will receive a T-shirt.

Register by Aug. 10 at CYS Central Registration.

CYS is also looking for coaches to help out with Tennis and Cross Country in the fall the season will begin the week of Sept. 17.

Call 634-6151 for information.

Soldiers' Theater auditions

Calling all experienced and novice actors, singers and dancers to schedule a private audition for the new 2007-2008 theatre season at Soldiers' Theater.

The season's first show will be Billy Ball, an exciting script that employs the works of Shakespeare within a sporting context. Director Ross Daniels is looking for 4 males and 3 females to fill the cast for this year's official entry in the IMCOM-E One Act Theatre Festival held in Heidelberg, Germany over Columbus Day weekend.

Vicenza performances will be the last week of September. Those not cast in Billy Ball may qualify for the Monologue Fest which is held the same weekend. Call 634-7281 to schedule your audition.

ACS personal finance class

Learn the importance of controlling personal finances and planning for a stable financial future. The class is from 3-4 p.m. Aug. 7. Call Financial Readiness at 634-7500 to make your reservation.

SETAF Soldiers join exercise in Romania

By Staff Sgt. David Hopkins,
SETAF Public Affairs Office

More than 100 Soldiers from the Southern European Task Force deployed to Forward Operating Site Mihail Kogalniceanu Air Base (FOS MKAB) over the month of July to participate in the Joint Task Force-East (JTF-E) Proof of Principle (PoP) exercise.

Roughly 1,000 U.S. Soldiers and civilian employees, all normally stationed in Italy and Germany, will

participate in the PoP exercise, which is scheduled to take place August 17 to October 22.

The exercise will build interoperability and military relationships with our partners in the War on Terrorism and NATO members Romania and Bulgaria, and test command and control capabilities required for future Brigade level deployments to JTF-E.

"The political significance of Joint Task Force East is that it

demonstrates U.S. commitment to Romania and Bulgaria, two key allies in the Global War on Terrorism," said Maj. Ryan Dillon, SETAF public affairs officer.

The Soldiers of SETAF will be joined by Soldiers from HQ USAREUR and the 1st Armored Division—to include 1st Battalion, 94th Field Artillery, Baumholder, Germany, and will be part of a joint headquarters. The joint headquarters will also include personnel from the US Air Force, US Navy Seabees and host nation forces.

The Soldiers will also take part in various training events, such as Individual Small Arms and Crew-served Ranges, Squad Live Fire Exercises, Situational Training Exercises and other soldiering skills with Romanian and Bulgarian counterparts.

"This is how you build partnerships and coalitions," said Maj. Gen. Frank G. Helmick, SETAF commander. "It's all about relationships when everything's said and done, and this is how you start."



Joint Romanian, Bulgarian and U.S. Soldiers react to a simulated IED and ambush during Exercise Immediate Response '06. Currently 100 SETAF Soldiers are deployed to Romania in the proof-of-principle exercise JTF-East. (Photo by Gary L. Kieffer)

Ederle Chapel

For details regarding any of these services or events, call the chapel at 634-7519 (0444-71-7519).

Weekday Mass

Mass is now held at noon Wednesday-Monday.

Saturday Services

4-4:30 p.m.: Sacrament of Reconciliation, or by appointment

5 p.m.: Roman Catholic Mass

Sunday Services

*NOTE: Sunday School services are not held over the summer.

9 a.m.: Roman Catholic Mass

10:45 a.m.-noon: Catholic Religious Education

11 a.m.: Protestant worship

1:30 p.m.: Full Gospel Pentecostal worship and Children's church

4 p.m.: Lutheran Services

6 p.m.: Contemporary worship

Club Beyond

Club Beyond is a non-denominational group serving all the teens in the Vicenza community.

For details contact Jocelyn Cary at 634-6546 or 348-385-3476 or vicecb@yahoo.com.

Muslim Services

The khutba and prayer will take place in the post chapel conference room Fridays, just after 12 p.m.

For details, contact the chapel at 634-7519.

Jewish services

For details regarding Jewish services, contact Dr. Steven or Nancy November at november6@msn.com.

Darby Chapel

8:30 a.m.: Catholic Reconciliation

9:30 a.m.: Catholic Mass

11:15 a.m.: Protestant worship

At your service

Michael Rundell is a Family Readiness Support Assistant for the 1st Squadron-91st Cavalry in Schweinfurt, Germany. He acts as a liaison for family members of deployed Soldiers. He is also a point of contact for submitting articles and photos to *The Outlook*.

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Baseball makes a return to Verona

By Gene Catena
Assistant Team Coach

For the first time in more than five years, Americans from the Vicenza military community played America's pastime against teams in an international setting. The team, dubbed the U.S.A. Ederle Vicenza Pirates, participated in the 26th International Youth Baseball Tournament in Verona from 12-15 July.

The opportunity to play more baseball after the conclusion of the USAG Vicenza Youth Sports season came in early June when the tournament director suddenly had an opening. USAG Vicenza YS Director Georgia Salyer accepted the invitation to field a team and immediately moved to make it a positive experience for the players and families. She organized volunteers and coordinated with the tournament committee to ensure the rules were understood.

Volunteer coaches held try-outs and followed up with intense practices to build camaraderie and refine the skills of the players.

The American all-stars selected were from ages 9-12. Coached by Tony Bly and Gene Catena, the Pirates included: Gabe Babin, Hannah Babin, Nicholas Bly, Michael Catena, Alex Cruz, Freddie Cunha, Lance Erickson, Shayne Meyers, Douglas Mitchell, Sam Ostlund, Will Ostlund, Peter Perry, C.J. Preysler, J.P. Sweed, Brian Thyng, and Joshua Valentin.

In addition to the Pirates, teams from Germany, Czech Republic and various cities in northern Italy (Milan, Parma, Bologna, Gorizia, and Verona) competed. The level of competition was considerably high with the teams showing impressive skill in executing fundamental baseball. After losing three close games, the Pirates came out on the final day of the tournament and devastated the team from Mannheim concluding their post season run on a high note.

The international setting coupled with the gracious hospitality of the host team (San Martino-Verona) contributed to a memorable weekend. The baseball youth of the Vicenza Military Community look forward to the opportunity to learn from this tournament experience and compete against their peers from other nations next season.



(Top) The U.S. Army Ederle Vicenza Pirates line up for a team photo. (Above) Alex Cruz takes a swing at a fast ball. (Right) Sam Oustlund ducks away from an inside pitch. (Photos by Larry Babin)

Sports Shorts

American Family Day 5k Walk/Run

The Sports and Fitness Center is holding its next installment of the Summer Family Fun Walk/Run Series Saturday August 4th. Sign up by 0730, the fun begins at 0800 at the North Forty Track. This Walk/Run is stroller friendly event. Call Vicenza Sports & Fitness at 634-6240 for more info.

Swim Instruction: Session 4

At the request of the Vicenza community, SKIES Unlimited has added an additional 4th Session of Swim Instruction set to begin August 6th to the 16, Monday to Thursday. Morning classes will be held at the Villaggio pool & evening classes at the Ederle Inn Pool. Call SKIES Unlimited at 634-7206 for more information.

CYS Coaching Clinic

CYS is offering a coaching clinic Saturday August 4th for those interested in coaching soccer, basketball, baseball/softball, cheerleading, and flag football. Coaches can only be certified to coach one sport per clinic. Deadline for registration is at least 3 days prior to the clinic. For more info call CYS Sports & Fitness at 634-6151/6152.

Feagin selected for U.S. Army Europe 10-Miler team

IMCOM-Europe Public Affairs
Press Release

HEIDELBERG, Germany—Capt. Stephanie Feagin, of the U.S. Army Health Clinic, Livorno, Italy, was one of two qualifying-race winners that will be leading a 12-member team representing Installation Management Command-Europe and U.S. Army, Europe at this year's annual U.S. Army 10-Miler.

Jonathan Dreher claimed first in the men's division (and tops overall), while Stephanie Feagin placed first for women in the IMCOM-Europe U.S. Forces 10-Miler held earlier this month in Grafenwoehr, Germany.

With their victories, the 26-year-old captains will join 10 other European-based Soldiers for the Army 10-Miler scheduled in Washington, D.C. in October.

Dreher, from Heidelberg, finished in 57 minutes, 25 seconds, beating out more than

130 competitors at Grafenwoehr, which has hosted the race since 1997.

Feagin, stationed at Livorno, Italy, finished in one hour, five minutes, 48 seconds – and placed in the top 10 overall.

Dreher, who returned from a deployment several months ago, said he honestly didn't expect to win due to lack of training while downrange.

"This was not my best time," said Dreher, a former West Point track and cross country team member. "Since February, when I came back from Iraq, I have been running more seriously. I was running a lot before I went to Iraq; I didn't have too many opportunities there."

Feagin, too, had her doubts about the IMCOM-Europe qualifier, even though she once placed 13th in the women's division of the U.S. Army 10-miler, which attracted, almost 25,000 last year.

"I am so excited to get a chance to

represent USAEUR in DC," Feagin said. "I will be running this race for all the Soldiers who are deployed in harm's way and cannot be back here to run it themselves."

"My favorite training is on trails along the rolling Tuscan hills near my house. I never train enough because I am quite lazy."

The men's IMCOM-Europe/USAREUR team is: Jonathan Dreher; Benjamin Martinelli, Heidelberg; Patrick Hicks, Giessen, Germany; Nathaniel Rayle, Heidelberg; Gustavo Lombra, Bamberg, Germany; and Cesar Garcia, Heidelberg.

The women's team is: Feagin; Sarah Kessler, Baumholder, Germany; Amy Bowman, Heidelberg; Kedra Segler, Vicenza, Italy; Laurel Farinacci, Mannheim; and Elizabeth Gonzalez, Grafenwoehr.

(Bilyana Atova of USAG Grafenwoehr Public Affairs contributed to this story)