



# The Outlook

June 12, 2007

U.S. Army Garrisons Vicenza & Livorno

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## Caserma Ederle community mourns loss of Sky Soldiers

By Sgt. Justin Nieto  
SETAF Public Affairs

Friends, families and fellow Soldiers of Spc. Jacob Lowell, and Pfc. Timothy Vimoto gathered at the post chapel for a memorial ceremony in their honor Monday morning.

Lowell, a gunner with 1st Battalion, 503d Infantry (Airborne), was killed when his convoy was ambushed June 2 and Vimoto, with 2nd Battalion, 503d Infantry (Airborne), was killed June 5 while conducting a night patrol. Both men were serving in the 173d Airborne Brigade Combat Teams's latest deployment to Afghanistan.

Sgt. Joshua Geis, addressing a chapel full of mourners, spoke about his time with Lowell.

"I remember my first meeting with Lowell and thinking, 'He is going to make a great Sky Soldier,'" said Geis. "You could always count on Lowell, no matter what."

Geis mentioned Lowell's ever-present smile and sense of humor, which kept him and his fellow Soldiers going.

"In spite of being shot, Lowell kept firing on the enemy until being fatally wounded and thus bought his buddies valuable time," said Geis. "He was a great Soldier in my eyes and in the eyes of everyone who knew him."

1st Lt. Alexander Furlong, 1-503d Inf (Abn), also remarked on the life of Lowell.

"Lowell volunteered for the Army and for the Airborne Infantry," said Furlong. "He volunteered to be a member of this community, which will now honor him forever."

"Men like Lowell are the very reason it is an honor to get up in the morning, put on the uniform and salute the flag as it rises on the flag pole," continued Furlong.

Sgt. Andy Short, Vimoto's squad leader, spoke about the life of Vimoto.



Spc. Jacob Lowell



Pfc. Timothy Vimoto

"Whether it was running that seventh mile of 'The Darkside' or picking grass out cracks in the sidewalk, Timothy did it with a

smile," said Short. "He is the kind of Soldier I want in my squad." Short recalled Vimoto's actions on the battlefield the day he died.

"That day, he got out of bed with the same purpose he did every day before; the same drive," said Short. "Timothy performed every one of his missions diligently. He knew he was protecting his country and the people who love him."

Capt. Matthew Heimerle, 2-503d Inf (Abn), reflected on the sacrifice of Vimoto and Soldiers like him.

"In his brief time with the company, he was able to distinguish himself from his peers," said Heimerle. "It is the direct result of the sacrifice of men like Vimoto that we are able to still take the fight to the enemy."

Men like Vimoto and Lowell are making the ultimate sacrifices everyday and thanks to their loving families and fellow Soldiers, that sacrifice will never be forgotten. Lowell and Vimoto have both been nominated for The Bronze Star Medal with a designation for valor.



Community members pay final respects during the memorial ceremony Monday. (Photo by Barbara Romano, 7th JMTC photo lab)

## Brigade assumes responsibility in eastern Afghanistan

CJTF-82 Combined Press  
Information Center  
Press Release

JALALABAD AIRFIELD, Afghanistan - The 173d Airborne Brigade Combat Team, "The Herd", took authority of the 3d Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division's area of operation in eastern Afghanistan during a transition of authority ceremony here June 6.

During the TOA ceremony, the 3d BCT commander described the last 16 months.

"It's been a lot of hard work," said Army Col. John Nicholson, commander of Task Force Spartan, "We have sacrificed much, but it has been a great honor to fight beside you. I'm sad to leave, but we are leaving you in good hands."

The 173d ABCT is no stranger to combat operations as the Sky Soldiers have deployed three times since 2003. In the spring of 2005, the 173d ABCT was once again called upon in support of Operation Enduring Freedom VI.

After making the transition from an airborne brigade to an airborne

brigade combat team, the 173d ABCT, TF Bayonet, was once again called upon to deploy in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

TF Spartan leaves their area of operation after 16 months of successful combat operations in the hands of the 173d ABCT.

"Task Force Bayonet pledges to continue to build upon your legacy of teamwork," said Army Col. Mark Johnstone, deputy commander of TF Bayonet.

The 173d ABCT looks forward to working with the Afghan people, concluded Johnstone.



Col. Mark Johnstone (left), deputy commander, 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team, and Sgt. Maj. Lyle Womack (right), operations sergeant major, 173rd ABCT, unveil the colors during the transition-of-authority ceremony on Forward Operation Base Fenty in Jalalabad, Afghanistan June 6. (Photo by Sgt. Brandon Aird, 173d ABCT Public Affairs)

## Help stop rumors in their tracks

Maj. Gen. Frank G. Helmick  
SETAF commanding general

In the wake of recent events in Afghanistan there was a rash of e-mails and phone calls throughout post, spreading information about the death of a Soldier. This situation caused panic through the community, especially for those Families with Soldiers currently deployed. Be assured the Army will notify the next of kin as quickly as possible.

The Army has strict regulations about the release of information surrounding the death or injury of Soldiers. These regulations are in place to protect the rights and privacy of the next of kin. The unnecessary spreading of rumors infringes on those rights and can cause unnecessary stress for Army Family members.

With the current deployment of the 173d Airborne Brigade Combat Team and the upcoming deployment of the 14th



Maj. Gen. Frank G. Helmick

Transportation Battalion, we must make a commitment to stop rumors; rumors are disruptive and divisive.

The Army and SETAF are doing everything possible to ensure the safety and well being of all our deployed Soldiers and their Families while providing accurate and timely information as needed.

Let's take care of our Army Family. Don't spread rumors. Airborne!

## Community Action Council

This forum is to discuss issues affecting the community. If you have an issue you wish to submit, visit the USAG Vicenza Web site at [www.usag.vicenza.army.mil](http://www.usag.vicenza.army.mil) and click on the Community Action Council link.

This link provides you the opportunity to review issues that have been previously submitted and responded to by post agencies.

There is also a form available for you to submit any new issue you would like addressed. If you have questions, call 634-5222 or 0444-71-5222 from off post.

The command encourages you to identify yourself when submitting a CAC issue in

order to be able to answer your concern directly. The command also reminds the community that CAC issues submitted containing vulgar, derogatory or inflammatory language will not be addressed.

Childcare is offered during the CAC at \$4 per hour, per child, for children ages 6 weeks old through kindergarten from 8:45-11:15 a.m. Preregistration is required.

Children will be cared for in the Child Development Center, building 395. Children must be registered with Child and Youth Services Central Registration. Call 634-7219 or stop by their location in the Davis Family Readiness Center.

The next CAC will be **July 25** beginning at 10 a.m. in Club Veneto.

Below are two of the most recent issues addressed by the May 23 CAC:

## Leniency for school parking issue

**Issue:** It is very difficult to find a parking space when picking up our children from school. Parents are receiving tickets for illegal parking when we are only parked for a few minutes; enough time to pick up our children from school.

**Recommendations:** (1) Provide parking decals for parents who are picking up their children.

(2) MPs only issue tickets immediately following the time after the school children have boarded the buses.

**Response from Directorate of Emergency Services:** Parking is, and will continue to be, a challenge for us all.

I believe that the parking decals would be a difficult program to control. However, other suggestions have been made to help with the parking problem around the school such as: 1) I am in coordination with Vicenza

Elementary School to determine if we can turn the four parking spaces, currently blocked off for safety reasons, into limited parking (15 minutes for loading and unloading).

These spaces would be reserved for parents who are dropping off and picking their children up during school.

2) I have instructed my military police officers to be sensitive to parking violations during morning drop-off and evening pick-up times.

I do not have a problem with parents parking in the yellow zone, at the end of rows in the parking lot, as long as it does not block the crosswalk or impede traffic.

Automobiles parking in this area at any other time will be ticketed.

We will not be able to fix the parking problem on Ederle in the near future, but we will continue to improve where we can.

## Safety issue addressed by MWR

**Issue:** Glass bottles are tossed in the patio area of Club V and the broken glass gets into the Child Development Center playground area.

**Response from Directorate of MWR:** Understanding the severity of safety issues involved in this issue, MWR has responded

by placing bilingual signs on the interior patio at Club Veneto. The signs remind those on the patio not to throw any items over the fence. In addition the club staff has been alerted to monitor customer activity in this area, identify offenders, and to report any observed incidents to the Military Police.

## Scam targets military spouses

American Red Cross  
Press Release

The American Red Cross has learned about a scam targeting military families. The scam involves military families being told false information as described below:

The caller (who has a young-sounding American accent) called a military spouse and identified herself as a representative of the Red Cross.

The caller stated that the spouse's husband (not identified by name) was hurt while in duty in Iraq and medevaced to a hospital in Germany.

The caller stated they couldn't start treatment until paperwork was accomplished, and that in order to start the paperwork, the needed the spouse to verify her husband's Social Security number and date of birth.

In this case, the spouse was quick to catch on and she did not provide any information to the caller.

The American Red Cross representatives typically do not contact military members or dependents directly and almost always go through commander or first sergeant channels.

Military family members are urged not to give out any personal information over

the phone if contacted by unknown or unverified individuals, to include confirmation that your spouse is deployed.

It is a federal crime, punishable by up to five years in prison, for a person to falsely or fraudulently pretend to be a member of, or an agent for, the American Red Cross for the purpose of soliciting,

collecting or receiving money or material.

In addition, American Red Cross representatives will contact military members or dependents directly only in response to an emergency message initiated by your family. (See June 5 *Outlook*,

page 3)

The American Red Cross does not report any type of casualty information to family members.

The Department of Defense is the sole agency responsible for contacting families if their military member has been injured or killed.

Should any military family member receive such a call, they are urged to report it to the American Red Cross, Mediterranean Hub at 634-7089, 0444-71-7089 from off post and to the USAG Vicenza Directorate of Human Resources at 634-7477 or 0444-71-7477 from off post.

## Italian veterinarians visit post

Story and photo by Pfc. Crystal Abbott  
SETAF Public Affairs

Veterinarians from around Italy visited Caserma Ederle May 21 to learn about the U.S. military and its veterinarian programs.

After Col. Gordon Davis, SETAF chief of staff, welcomed the veterinarians to Caserma Ederle a presentation of Caserma Ederle's purpose and organization was given by Col. Salvatore Bordonaro, Italian base commander and deputy chief of staff.

Following the presentation, a brief question and answer period was held.

Serena Bressan, a veterinarian from *Clinica Sirio* was glad to have a chance to learn more about Caserma Ederle and the veterinary clinic associated with post.

"It is essential for veterinarians to understand the work of American Soldiers here so we can meet the needs they have," said Bressan. "Understanding what goes on at Caserma Ederle helps me understand the needs of the families and their pets."

Lt. Col. Timothy Stevenson agreed with the importance of sharing information with the Italian veterinarians.

"We learn from their experience," said Stevenson. "And we learn from their cultural perspectives on veterinary medicine."

The question and answer session ended with a short presentation by Lt. Col. Mario Marchisio, who is with the Italian Army Veterinary Corps, about the Italian military working dog program.

The group then went outside and watched as a U.S. Army military working dog team demonstrated how the dogs react to commands.

The dog team performed several different routines, one of which portrayed an ID card check. While the military police was checking the ID card, a Soldier, acting the part of a suspect and wearing special protective gear, started to run away.

The military police officer shouted two warnings for the suspect to stop before he gave the command for his dog, Caesar, to stop him.

The demonstrations displayed the wide range of commands military dogs are trained to perform and showed their capabilities.

These veterinarians, American and Italian, came together to share information on the care and treatment of animals.

"It is important to be able to discuss common goals and objectives," said Stevenson, "by cooperating we can do our jobs more effectively and we can learn from each other."



Staff Sgt. Melvin Cirilo (right), narcotics and explosives detection dog handler, quickly calls off his dog, Caesar, after apprehending the suspect played by Staff Sgt. Jacob Ellison, during a demonstration presented to visiting Italian veterinarians May 21. The veterinarians were on post to learn about the lives of Soldiers and families of Caserma Ederle so they can provide better care for their pets.

## Army civilians get \$2K for referrals

Army Civilian Personnel Office  
Press Release

The Referral Bonus Program has now expanded to include Department of the Army Civilians.

This recruiting incentive currently pays Soldiers and Army retirees \$2,000 for referring applicants who enlist in the Regular Component of the Army, Army Reserve, or Army National Guard; complete basic training; and graduate advanced individual training.

The referral must be made by the DA civilian at <https://www.usarec.army.mil/smart/> prior to the new recruit's first meeting with a recruiter.

The Secretary of the Army may pay a bonus to any Soldier, Army retiree, or Army civilian who refers to an Army recruiter a person who has not previously served in the Armed Forces and enlists in either the Active Army, Army National Guard or the Army Reserves. The referrer may not be an immediate family member

and the Soldier, retiree or Army Civilian referring may not be serving in a recruiting or retention assignment.

"As the Army Civilian Creed notes, Army Civilians are dedicated members of the Army Team, they support the mission, and they provide stability and continuity during war and peace," said Lt. Gen. Michael Rochelle, Army Deputy Chief of Staff G-1. "And I know they are directing deserving youth to recruiters now. This program will encourage them and reward them for their service."

For more information about this pilot incentive program, visit <https://www.usarec.army.mil/smart/> or call 1-800-223-3735, ext. 6-0473.

For the Army National Guard, the referrer must either submit the referral through a process via the ESAR (every Soldier is a recruiter) on-line portal located at <http://www.1800goguard.com/esar> or through the ARNG 800 line (1-800-go-guard extension 3727) dedicated to this program.

## Retiree Appreciation Day Friday

Retiree Appreciation Day activities will be held Friday at the Central Processing Facility beginning at 8:30 a.m.

Retirees will receive briefings from SETAF and USAG Vicenza command staff and Caserma Ederle support agencies.

"The mission of Retiree Appreciation Day is to bring retired Soldiers and their families up-to-date on changes in their retirement rights, benefits and privileges," said Richard Hendrickson, Retirement Services officer.

Retirees are invited to take advantage of the following U.S. Army Health Center-Vicenza services during Retiree Day activities:

- Fasting blood draw for glucose and cholesterol at 8:30 a.m. Participants must have fasted for 10 hours prior to having their blood drawn.

- Health Screening Table (with BP, BMI, medication reconciliation, and questionnaire)

- Provider table for event consults, lab interpretations, make appointment (if possible).

- Table for Advance Directives

- Women's Health

- Nutrition

- Pharmacy Education

- OT/Physical Therapy (arthritis, osteoporosis)

- Travel Health and Prevention

- Pneumococcal vaccination: The one-time pneumococcal vaccine is available at

the Health Center.

This vaccine prevents infection from 23 strains of a bacterium called *Streptococcus Pneumoniae* which causes thousands of cases of fatal pneumonia and meningitis each year.

Retirees who are unable to receive the vaccine during Retiree Appreciation Day, can get the vaccine on a walk-in basis during immunization hours on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 1-3:30 p.m. no appointment is necessary.

If you have any questions or need more information about the vaccine call Mrs. Toure, RN, at 634-8010, or 0444-71-8010.

The Dental Clinic offers dental screenings, cleanings, dental health information, and will schedule follow-up appointments for those in need.

Services offered by staff of the USAG Vicenza central processing facility included updating (if necessary) ID cards, DEERs, along with post access cards. Information will be available on the new processes for passports and soggiornos as well as what is required as the retiree experiences life-changing events.

Retirees interested in attending this event are asked to contact Richard Hendrickson by phone at 634-7451 or e-mail: [Richard.Hendrickson@eur.army.mil](mailto:Richard.Hendrickson@eur.army.mil), or Ron Reynolds at 634-7451 or e-mail: [ron.reynolds@eur.army.mil](mailto:ron.reynolds@eur.army.mil).

## Learn how to identify, prevent, treat indoor mold

By **Rabia Nombamba**  
*USAG Ansbach*

**HEIDELBERG, Germany** — With mold being prevalent throughout Europe, the questions of mold effects on health, mold exposure and prevention is important to all living throughout the theater.

According to the Department of Health and Human Services Web site, symptoms of mold exposure can be nasal stuffiness, eye irritation, wheezing, or skin irritation, but people with mold allergies may have more severe reactions.

"Mold exposure does not always present a health problem indoors," said Linda Ording, an industrial hygienist with U.S. Army Garrison Ansbach, Germany. "However, some people are sensitive to molds. Immune compromised people and people with chronic lung illnesses may get serious infections in their lungs when exposed to mold."

"If anyone feels that his or her health is being affected by a mold issue they need to have it addressed by a health care professional since the signs and symptoms are consistent with other illnesses," said Capt. Matthew T. Perry, chief of Environmental Health Services, U.S. Army Medical Activity-Bavaria.

Mold can be found both indoors and outdoors. It invades homes through open doorways, windows, vents, and heating and air conditioning systems.

The spores float through the indoor and outdoor air continually, and can attach themselves to clothing, shoes, bags, and even pets. However, there are ways to prevent mold, such as opening windows at least twice daily for 10-20 minutes or ensuring adequate ventilation.

Mold infestations can usually be seen or

smelled. Self-help for smaller mold issues is a possibility. Environmental Health Services recommends using detergent and water to wash mold off hard surfaces and allowing it to dry completely for mold problems of about ten square feet or smaller.

"A bleach solution of one cup of bleach to one gallon of water can also be used," he said. However, Perry added, it is necessary to use gloves, eye protection and a dust mask or respirator for protection when cleaning mold.

People with health concerns should consult a doctor before doing any mold cleanup, Perry said.

"If you can see mold or smell a musty odor, you have a mold problem. But a thorough investigation is necessary to determine the cause of the moisture problem," Ording said.

And some problems are bigger than others, Perry added.

"In severe cases, it may be necessary to remove occupants from their dwelling until the remediation or repair is completed."

People who believe they have mold problems that exceed 10 square feet should call USAG Vicenza Housing at 634-8679/8578.

For more information on mold, checkout the following resources from the U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine Web site:

[http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/mold/Mold\\_TriFold.pdf](http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/mold/Mold_TriFold.pdf)

[http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/mold/Mold\\_Prevention\\_Home.pdf](http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/mold/Mold_Prevention_Home.pdf)

<http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/documents/FACT/64-005-0203.pdf>

The Environment Protection Agency has a Web site with tons of information, such as mold basics, cleanup and control tips. The site is: [www.epa.gov/iaq/molds/moldguide.html](http://www.epa.gov/iaq/molds/moldguide.html).

## Last days to sign up for Operation Walk 4 Freedom Vicenza

By **Lesley Gomez**

*USAG Vicenza Health Promotion*

Show your support for our Soldiers downrange by joining the Walk 4 Freedom program.

This is a one-year wellness initiative open to the entire community where you can get fit and stay healthy during the deployment.

Walk 4 Freedom is easy and there will be events held during the year to help you collect extra miles when you see the Operation Walk

4 Freedom logo.

When you sign up to participate you'll receive a free pedometer, make new friends and get involved in the community.

Register through the USAG Vicenza Health Promotion office or come to a health assessment June 13, noon-3 p.m. or 4:30-7 p.m. or June 14, 9 a.m.-noon at the post fitness center.

For details call the Health Promotion office at 634-8828 or e-mail [health@setaf.army.mil](mailto:health@setaf.army.mil).



Family member Betsy Walters (right) receives Walk 4 Freedom poster from health clinic nurse, Amy Stacey, during the May 24 Safety Day. (Photo by Laura Kreider, Outlook staff)



Moisture let in by leaky windows is a leading cause of mold.

### Mold prevention tips

- ◆ Keep the humidity level in your home between 40 and 60 percent.

- ◆ In homes without central heating and air conditioning systems, open windows twice a day for 10-20 minutes at a minimum.

- ◆ Be sure your home has enough ventilation.

- ◆ Use exhaust fans that vent outside your home in the kitchen and bathroom. Make sure your clothes dryer vents outside your home.

- ◆ Fix any leaks in your home's roof, walls, or plumbing so mold does not have the moisture it needs to grow.

- ◆ Clean up and dry out your home thoroughly and quickly (within 24-48 hours) after any water incursion.

- ◆ Add mold inhibitors to paints before painting.

- ◆ Clean bathrooms with mold-killing products (a 10 percent bleach solution is adequate).

- ◆ Remove or replace carpets and

upholstery that have been soaked and cannot be dried promptly.

- ◆ Consider not using carpeting in areas like bathrooms or basements that have a lot of moisture.

- ◆ If using bleach to clean up mold:

- ◆ Never mix bleach and ammonia or other household cleaners. Mixing bleach with ammonia or other cleaning products can produce dangerous toxic fumes.

- ◆ Open windows and doors to provide fresh air.

- ◆ Wear non-porous gloves and protective eyewear.

- ◆ If the area to be cleaned is more than 10 square feet, contact the Housing Office.

Sources: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Web site, pamphlets of U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion Preventive Medicine, Industrial Hygiene/Preventive Medicine Mold Assessment Guide

## The Outlook

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# Soldiers put feet to feat in Army Ten-Miler

*Unit sends three Soldiers to one of America's largest 10-mile races*

By Sgt. Justin Nieto  
SETAF Public Affairs

The Caserma Ederle community will be well-represented at this year's Army Ten-Miler in Washington, D.C. as five runners from various units on post elevated themselves above the competition and made the cut to make the USAREUR running team.

This year Capt. Stephanie Feagin, U.S. Army Health Clinic-Livorno, Capt. Kedra Segler, U.S. Army Health Center-Vicenza and Spc. Brigida Sanchez, AFN South, will represent SETAF and USAREUR at the race.

Chief Warrant Officer Abel Chavez has been named as alternates for the race as well.

The annual Army Ten-Miler takes place in October and has been around for 23 years, featuring tens of thousands of runners from all over the world.

"It is an honor and privilege to run for SETAF, and I am excited to represent such a great organization," said Feagin, who has run the Ten-Miler twice before. "I hope to increase my mileage, add sessions of speed work (mile and 800m repeats, temp runs, etc), and hopefully do some more races here in Italy to prepare."

Segler, who is a three-time Army Ten-Miler veteran herself, enjoys the atmosphere events like this present, along with the challenges.

"Runners are a fun bunch of people to be with, everyone striving to do their best in many different weather conditions," said Segler. "Yet everyone in the end congratulates everyone, and everyone enjoys the singular competition in a community setting."

The team, sponsored by the Vicenza Military Spouses and Civilians Club and Global Credit Union, is coached by Huseyin Kara, USAG Vicenza Central Issue Facility manager, who is a runner of more than 20 years spanning a distance over 120,000 miles.

"A friend, who is a runner invited me to a run 20 years ago and I just got kind of addicted to the sport after that first run," said Kara.

"This is the only sport that offers the chance to compete with best in the world. I have competed in races with world's



Chief Warrant Officer Abel Chavez, SETAF Information Assurance manager, crosses the finish line at the 2007 U.S. Forces-Europe 10-Miler held in Grafenwoehr, Germany. Chavez finished ninth overall and first for his age group, earning a spot as an alternate for the Army Ten-Miler to be held in Washington D.C. in October.

best marathoners like Stefano Baldini and Paul Tergat.

"Not many basketball players can say that they competed in a basketball match with Michael Jordan or Shaquille O'Neil. Also, I can't think of any other sport that offers better fitness and feeling," continued Kara.

The Army Ten-Miler will take place this year Oct. 7 in Washington, D.C. and will feature a field of more than 25,000 runners.



(Above) The SETAF Ten-Miler Team poses with their trophies after the race. (Right) The runners take off at the start of the Ten Miler in Grafenwoehr, Germany.



(Above) Capt. Stephanie Feagin, U.S. Army Health Clinic-Livorno, crosses the finishing line at the U.S. Forces-Europe Ten-Miler. "It is an honor and privilege to run for SETAF, and I am excited to represent such a great organization," said Feagin, who has run the Ten-Miler twice before.

(Right) Spc. Brigida Sanchez, AFN South, crosses the finish line in the USAREUR 10-Miler with a time of 83:05:47. "I was thrilled that I was able to make such good time," she said. "Especially considering I was running with a sprain."



(Photos courtesy of Sgt. 1st Class Maria Escobedo, SETAF and Biliana Atova, Bavarian News)

# Darby troops work with National Park during transplant donation drive

By Staff Sgt. Joyce Costello  
USAG Livorno Public Affairs

It was early Saturday morning, but at Camp Darby there was a bustle of activity as junior enlisted

Soldiers and Airmen performed last-minute checks on vehicles and equipment.

As they left the gate with their carabinieri escort, the flashing lights of the squad car left an odd

blue glow on the wet pavement. Storm clouds loomed overhead but there was no word to call off the mission. The troops dug in and did what they were trained to do – be professional warriors.

Once onsite, Sgt. Tom Garrard, USAG Livorno D.A.R.E. officer, quickly assessed the situation and sent one Soldier off for a tent and an electrical outlet and an Airman to get their military gear. Garrard's idea was to turn this mission into something special.

Camp Darby troops arrived with a water purification machine and military vehicles to display along side Italian 46th Air Brigade, the Paracadutimo, state police, Carabinieri, Guardia di Finanza and the Pisa Fire Department displays as part of the San Rossore National Park Organ Transplant Festival.

The troops brain-stormed and decided what they could do to make their display more interactive and exciting to participants.

"I'll build lanes for children to low and high-crawl through, and they can get marshmallows when they finish," suggested Sgt. Shawn Walbeck.

"I'll dress up in the anti-drug dog costume and pass out safety trinkets to the children," added Airman 1st Class Preston Griffin.

"I speak some Italian and can help translate, so we can get a tent," said Spc. Angelique Belleville.

The troops' excitement was contagious and soon the display area was crowded with passerbys.

Walbeck held demonstrations of combat operations in the humvee weapons turret wearing full battle gear.

Children followed him like the piped piper, climbing up and exploring all over the equipment.

Garrard did a law enforcement demonstration using volunteers from the crowd. He also provided a basic self defense interactive demonstration with children and parents.

Day one was going well. Even when it began to hail and everyone was drenched to the bone, running around chasing after equipment threatening to fly away and helping other military services keep their tents grounded, the Camp Darby

troops were still smiling. "Does anyone from today's shift want to come back and help again

tomorrow," asked Garrard. "Heck yes," yelled Belleville. "If it ain't raining, we ain't training."



Spc. Angelique Belleville decides to switch her car for a more eco-friendly Italian Police transport system. (Photo by Sgt. Shawn Walbeck)



A father watches his child play in an American humvee that was part of the Camp Darby display for the San Rossore National Park Organ Transplant Festival. (Photo by Spc. Angelique Belleville)



Italian families swarm to get their photos taken with the USAG Livorno D.A.R.E. mascot. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Joyce Costello, USAG Livorno, Public Affairs)

## Camp Darby Briefs

### Italian American Carnival

June 15-24 rides, games, food, music and more.

Darby Day is June 15 and rides are free from 5-7 p.m. Don't miss your chance to win two free roundtrip Delta tickets.

### Motorcycle Course

If you are new to Camp Darby and want to ride your motorcycle, you must attend Camp Darby's Motorcycle Safety foundation

course in order to ride in Italy legally. Other courses will not transfer. Call the Safety office at 633-7318 details and class dates.

### ITR

Call 633-7589 to sign up for the following trips:

- Pisa Luminara- June 16
- Elba Island- June 15
- Rome Trip- June 14, 21
- Florence- June 16, 23, 30
- Wine tasting- June 19, 26
- Cinque Terre- June 20

## Italian students try out their English during visit to Camp Darby

Story and photo by Chiara Mattirola  
USAG Livorno Public Affairs

The English language was brought to life for Italian students when, as part of their English study plan, the children from Fidenza, near Parma, paid a visit to Camp Darby.

Sgt. Thomas Garrard, USAG Livorno D.A.R.E. officer, organized a demonstration for the Italian youth highlighting the work of U.S. military

police and their working dogs, security guards and the Camp Darby Fire Department.

For many Italian students it was a unique experience to be able to immerse themselves in a different culture and language.

"I wanted to try everything from American hamburgers and hot dogs to the green fruit Jello," said Danila, age 10. "I've never eaten food that bounces."



Italian students try on equipment worn by the Camp Darby firefighters during a visit May 31.

## Students travel back in time

Story and photo by Chiara Mattirola  
USAG Livorno Public Affairs

Studying English and History can be bland or it can explode to life with a little creativity.

American students at Livorno Unit Schools were studying the medieval ages when members of the Society for Creative Anachronism decided to help the youth step back in time.

SCA prepared food following medieval recipes and a lady dressed in a medieval costume served her wards. Her lady friends, in the meantime embroidered a cloth using medieval techniques reproducing the history of her reign.

Fighters wearing suits of armor demonstrated fighting ancient techniques. Students from both the elementary and high school learned about medieval combat, clothing, armor, games, food and weaponry.



Two knights battle over the honor of a lady in distress. The avowed purpose of the SCA is the study and recreation of the European Middle Ages, it's crafts, sciences, arts, traditions and literature.

## Camp Darby thanked for blood donations

From Rear Adm. Francesco Simonetti  
Director, Marina Militare

While underlining the deep ethical and social meaning present in the donation of "a part of oneself," I wish to express the deepest appreciation for such action of disinterested generosity and convey a heart-felt thanks from those people who will benefit. I hope this circumstance may be followed by other ones and represent example and stimulus for the diffusion of blood donations.





## *Congratulations to Vicenza High School Class of 2007*



Vicenza's famed *Teatro Olimpico* was again the scene for a Vicenza High School graduation ceremony Sunday. This year's Valdictorian was Adam St. Vincent and Salutarian was Megan Gafford. Best of luck to all graduating seniors: Christopher Bell, Jessica Boydston, Crystal Buhler, Jessica Buhler, Dominique Covarrubias, Janaya Dash, Thomas Downer Jr., Jesalyn Draper, Michael Erickson, Christopher Farinella Jr., Megan Gafford, Chyrll Gaspar, David Gilbert, Katanya Green, Andrew Hammil, Antonio Harris, Andrew Hepler, Shane Hinton, Mary Katherine Hunnewell, Ashley Kabonick, Brandon McCoy, Michael McLean, Melissa Martini-Calabrese, Stephanie Meyers, Uriah Moos, Ana Ortega, Rickey Rivers, Elyse Roques, Adam St. Vincent, David Sherrick, Marline Solis, Melvin Williams and Zackery Williams. (Photo courtesy of Spc. Brigida Sanchez, AFN South)