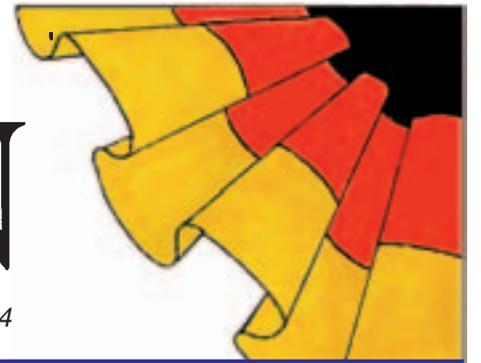




# THE CITIZEN



Vol. 33, No. 8

The 6th Area Support Group Newspaper

April 20, 2004

Stuttgart, Bad Aibling, Oberammergau and Garmisch, Germany

## Stuttgart Cubs 'bridge' to Boy Scouts with evening ceremony in Böblingen

Story & photos by Hugh C. McBride

The Boy Scouts of Stuttgart's troops 324 and 154 welcomed 11 new members into the fold during an April 2 ceremony that blended scouting tradition with Native American imagery and folklore.

For the new members – Webelos from three Stuttgart-area Cub Scout packs – the rite served as both a figurative and literal bridge between their past in Cub Scouts and their future as Boy Scouts.

"They've been supported by their parents during their time in Cub Scouts, and this ceremony emphasizes the additional support they will receive from their fellow Boy Scouts," said Darla Phillips, advancements chairperson for Troop 324.

Incorporating a Native American element into the ceremony allowed for an event that emphasized both an understanding of nature and a reliance on the core values of scouting, Phillips said.

Eagle Scout Chet Husk, 16, said the evening brought key elements of scouting to the forefront. Developing leadership, cultivating a respect for the outdoors, and enjoying the opportunity to meet and work with other people, he said, are just a few of the lifelong advantages scouting offers to participating youth.

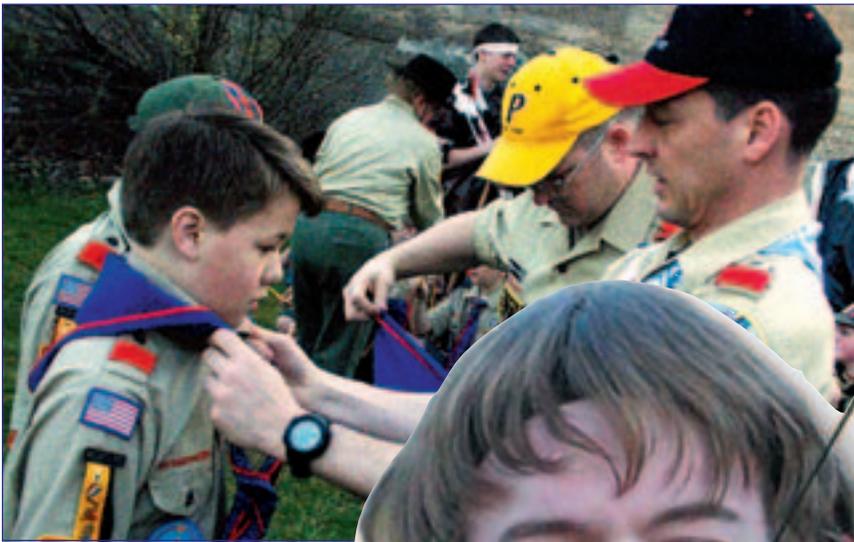
"There's a lot of fun to be had in scouting," Husk said. "It has so many benefits attached to it."

The ceremony began with the prospective scouts seated around a campfire. Four Boy Scouts narrated a Native American-influenced story about the powers of the four winds and the spirits of various animals, then escorted the new members to a small bridge in a nearby clearing.

As each initiate's name was announced, Boy Scout Tim Phillips shot a flaming arrow toward a target in the clearing – representing the passing of the light from current scouts to new members. Each new scout crossed the bridge, retrieved his arrow, and was received into his new troop.

After all the scouts had crossed the bridge, they received their Boy Scout handbooks, shoulder insignia and neckerchiefs, posed for photographs with their new troop mates, and enjoyed a barbeque provided by Stuttgart's Special Forces Association.

[Top] New Boy Scouts receive their neckerchiefs. [Bottom] Dave Jenkins crosses the bridge into Boy Scouts. [Center] Tim Phillips aims a flaming arrow during the April 2 ceremony.



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EDITION

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### New director takes helm of AST Garmisch

Greg Holzinger, who grew up in Germany as the son of an active-duty Soldier, returns to direct Area Support Team Garmisch.



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### Area men honored for culinary excellence

Two Stuttgart-area men earn accolades for their performance with the IMA-E Culinary Arts Team during a competition in Virginia.



## Thorns 'n Roses

From community submissions



### Roses to:

**Del Bergmeier**, of the 6th ASG's information technology support staff, for his unwavering support, patience and always friendly attitude. Del truly gives the IT team a good name.

**Anthony Turman**, for his tremendous assistance during the Robinson Barracks Library's recent relocation. For five straight weeks, Anthony showed up every day to move heavy boxes, shelve books and cart equipment to the basement. All readers in the Stuttgart area have benefitted from Anthony's unwavering support of our library program.

**Rose at the deli in the Patch Barracks Commissary**, for going out of her way to perform a tremendous service on short notice. I was recently hosting a big event, and when I went to the deli to pick up the vegetable and meat tray I had ordered, I discovered it wasn't ready. Rose took the extra time and effort to put together a great tray and save the day.

### Thorns to:

**Certain selfish patrons of the Patch Library**, who seem to consistently take advantage of the library's growing DVD collection and no-fee late policy.

The library has been doing a great job of bringing another touch of the States to our community with DVDs of popular movies and television series, yet so often I haven't been able to borrow what I was looking for because someone didn't feel like bringing it back on time.

E-mail comments to [citizen@6asg.army.mil](mailto:citizen@6asg.army.mil) or fax them to 421-2570/civ. 0711-729-2570.

# THE CITIZEN

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# This idea deserves the boot

## Celebrities, basic training just don't mix

By Hugh C. McBride  
Commentary

I'm a lot like Tiger Woods. Except, of course, for the incredible athleticism. And the matinee-idol good looks and international fame. And the enormous endorsement deals, multimillion-dollar bank account and drop-dead gorgeous fiancée.

I guess what I'm trying to say is this: like the golfing great, I've never been to boot camp.

As I write these words, Tiger is hacking his way around the famous Augusta National Golf Club, mired in 20th place in The Masters, a major tournament he has already won twice.

But by the time this paper makes it into your hands, Woods will have traded in his traditional final-round red golf shirt for a standard-issue Battle Dress Uniform and the opportunity to "endure" a four-day simulated boot camp at Fort Bragg, N.C.

Back when he was just a prodigy named Eldrick, the future champion was the son of a special forces Soldier who did two tours in Vietnam and spent some of his stateside time stationed at Fort Bragg.

In a story published March 22, Earl Woods told the Associated Press that his son's week of simulated military life will be "a broadening experience for him ... He'll learn a lot more respect. He'll learn a little bit about dedication. And he'll learn an awful lot about himself."

Forgive me if I fail to salute the next time I see his Cadillac commercial.

I don't doubt Tiger's motives. He has made no secret of his fascination with the military, and has even opined that, were it not for golf, he might have pursued a career in uniform. And, having summited his chosen vocation at such a young age, he undoubtedly yearns for another formidable challenge with which to test his renowned mental toughness and physical prowess.

But *four days*?

When I first heard rumor of Tiger's future foray onto the field of simulated battle, I harkened back to a moment many, many Spring Breaks ago when, on the sun-kissed sands of Daytona Beach, a college friend of mine impressed a new acquaintance by telling her that he was studying Marine Biology – to ensure that if his future in science didn't work out he'd have a career in the Corps to fall back on.

The fact that this line worked says more about the mentality of the average Spring Breaker than it does about its inherent logic, but you would expect that one of the world's greatest athletes – and his adoring public – would be functioning at a significantly higher level, wouldn't you?

Given my current occupation, it's safe to say that I'm not

*Tiger Woods' father said four days in simulated boot camp will teach the golfer a great deal about respect and dedication. Forgive me if I fail to salute the next time I see his Cadillac commercial.*

averse to generating some positive publicity for our military men and women. And, in addition to drawing extra attention to the heroes who train at Fort Bragg every day, Woods will finish his week in uniform with a golf clinic for military children. Again, nothing to find fault with there.

Yet – just as you know that executives throughout Hollywood are finding their religion as they take note of the millions Mel Gibson has mined from that hilltop in Golgotha – I can't help but cringe at the thought of agents for B- and C-list celebrities searching for a similar "military moment" to generate some positive press for their has-been clients.

Once upon a time, athletes' superior skills actually qualified, rather than exempted, them from military service. Baseball Hall of Famers Bob Feller and Ted Williams were two of many professional athletes to put their careers on hiatus to serve their country.

Feller, the second major-leaguer to enlist in response to the bombing of Pearl Harbor, sacrificed four seasons to service in the Navy, earning eight battle stars along the way.

Williams put his legendary eyesight and hand-eye coordination to use as a Marine aviator, training pilots for duty during World War II and later flying 37 combat missions in the skies over Korea.

Though hardly the norm today, swapping cleats for combat boots isn't an entirely foreign concept. Pat Tillman was a defensive back for the NFL's Arizona Cardinals when, in May 2002, he swapped his \$3.6 million-dollar contract for a three-year stint with the U.S. Army Rangers.

Tillman and his brother, Kevin – a minor league baseball player who also left sports for military service – have served in the Middle East in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Yet you'll probably read more about Woods' four days in uniform than you will about the Tillmans' combined six years of active-duty service, as the brothers have turned down all media requests since enlisting.

I've got nothing more against golfers playing Soldier than I do of distributing "Army of One" video games to promote military service. But when you can walk onto any U.S. military installation anywhere in the world and have a conversation with a real-life hero, why do we need a 96-hour publicity stunt to advertise the amazing feats our service members accomplish every day of their lives?

## ON THE STREET

*Which celebrity would you like to send to boot camp with the U.S. military?*

– Compiled by Mildred Green & Melanie Casey



Spc. Jean Rodney  
Louis Jacques  
(Army)

"Rasheed Wallace. He has no principles and needs to learn how to be presentable."



Tamara Butcher  
(Civilian)

"Julia Roberts, because she has had everything handed to her."



Staff Sgt. Nakiesha Willis  
(Army)

"Jack and Kelley Osbourne. They really need discipline."



Spc. Jenni Perez  
(Army)

"Jennifer Lopez. She is so glamorous and needs to be brought back down to the real world."



photos by Michael Beaton (U.S. European Command)

Visiting students from New York City turn their attention to U.S. European Command Deputy Commander Gen. Charles Wald April 7 on Patch Barracks. The students were in Stuttgart as part of the Bridge New York – Berlin program, which was founded by German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder in the aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the United States.

## NY students visit Stuttgart

### *EUCOM deputy commander hosts participants of program begun in aftermath of 9/11*

By Carola Meusel  
Contributor

U.S. European Command Deputy Commander Gen. Charles Wald hosted 80 high school students from New York City for an afternoon visit to Patch Barracks April 7.

The students were in Stuttgart as part of the Bridge New York – Berlin project, a visitation program established by German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder in the aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the United States.

#### *A cultural experience*

Now in its third year, the project – which is funded by DaimlerChrysler, Deutsche Telekom and a number of other German corporations – gives New York students a two-week look into German life, history, politics and culture.

To enhance their brief immersion into the German culture, the students live with host families, tour throughout the country and meet with Schroeder in Berlin.

The participating students were selected by the New York Department of Education based upon an essay and interview.

#### *A look at EUCOM*

Wald welcomed the students in the Patch Community Club, where he described the role of the U.S. military overseas and showed a video about EUCOM. He spent a great deal of time with the students, answering a wide range of questions and sharing a barbeque meal with them.

In addition to discussing purely military matters, Wald also told the students about the historic relationship between the United States and Germany – including the German soldiers who are currently providing force protection on U.S. installations.

“Here in Germany we’ve been treated wonderfully,” Wald said. “We’ve been friends with the [German] military for a long time, and you can’t ask for a better relationship.”

The students were also treated to a display of various weapons, uniforms and equipment used by U.S. troops around the world, including field communication technology and a Humvee. EUCOM service members explained the functions of these items and answered questions from the students.

#### *A positive impression*

Three students who attended the Patch meeting said their first impressions of Germany were very positive, primarily because of the clean environment and the friendly people.



6th Area Support Group Commander Col. Gwendolyn Bonéy-Harris speaks with two Bridge New York – Berlin participants April 7 on Patch Barracks.

“Here in Germany [the U.S. military has] been treated wonderfully. You can’t ask for a better relationship.”

Gen. Charles Wald  
U.S. European Command

Shaina Antony, a 17-year-old student from The Ursuline School in Westchester, said she appreciated the opportunity to meet people with a different cultural background than her own.

Christina Garcia, 18, of Mother Cabrini High School, said she was hoping to visit a museum, an amusement park and especially a castle – because she had never seen one in person – while in Germany.

And Veronika Braczyk, 17, a student at Saint Vincent Ferrer School, said that in addition to what she learned about Germany, she also became friends with other students from New York.

Discussing the origin of the “Bridge” program – the Sept. 11 attacks – the girls said though they still fear an additional attack in their city, they try to live as normal a life as possible.

## News & Notes

### *Team USA needs more Gladiators*

The Team USA Gladiators, a minor league football team, is coming to Germany to take on the Stuttgart Scorpions. The team will be selecting 12 additional members to play in the May 15 Charity Bowl.

To try out for the team, meet in front of the Patch Fitness Center April 24, 1 p.m. (with pads and helmets, which players must provide). For more information, call Desmond Thompson at 430-5424/civ. 0711-680-5424.

### *Parking decal process changes*

Decals allowing community members to park in handicapped-accessible spaces in Stuttgart are now issued at the Installation Support Manager’s office on Kelley Barracks (building 3315, room 135).

Decals previously issued by the 6th Area Support Group Office of the Provost Marshal are no longer valid.

For more information call 421-2202/civ. 0711-729-2202 or e-mail thompsonb@6asg.army.mil.

### *Legion looking for WWII vets*

The American Legion Stuttgart Post 6 is looking for veterans of World War II to participate in a Memorial Day service May 31, 11 a.m., at the Kelley Barracks flagpole.

For more information call Fred Wildi at 430-4163/civ. 0711-680-4163 or e-mail fwildi\_2000@yahoo.com.

### *Sidewalk work on Finance Row*

Workers will be renovating two sections of the sidewalk on Finance Row (Patch Barracks, building 2325) April 29 and 30.

Detours will be set up around the work sites, and a few parking spaces may be lost to construction equipment and the pedestrian safety zones.

For details call 421-6236/civ. 0711-729-6236.

### *Nat’l Day of Prayer event on Patch*

The 6th Area Support Group Chaplain’s Office is sponsoring a National Day of Prayer event May 6, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., in the Patch Chapel.

The ceremony will unite community members in prayer for our troops, our leaders and our nation. American Forces Network Chaplain Capt. Mark Johnston will serve as special guest speaker.

For details call 430-5000/civ. 0711-680-5000.

### *Volunteer recognition ceremony*

Stuttgart’s Volunteer Recognition Luncheon is April 26, 11:30 a.m., in the Patch Community Club.

The RSVP deadline is April 21. Call Army Community Service at 430-7176/civ. 0711-680-7176.

### *24-Hour Marathon needs logo*

Stuttgart’s 24-Hour Marathon Committee is asking the community’s young artists to design a logo for this year’s event.

Contest participants must be 18 years old or younger, must incorporate “2004” into their design, and must e-mail an electronic copy of their logo by April 30 to blanchss@eucom.mil.

### *PHS hosts College Fair, Bingo*

• The Patch High School College Fair is May 11, 6 to 8 p.m., in the PHS Forum. Community members are encouraged to represent their alma mater at this event.

For more information call Lynn Menches at 07159-933-707 or Robin Armstrong at 0711-120-8941 or e-mail patchcollegefair@yahoo.com

• PHS will also host a **Bingo Family Fun Night** April 23 beginning at 6 p.m. in the PHS Forum. For details e-mail mohineh@yahoo.com.

### *Yard sale on Floridastrasse*

The annual Floridastrasse Yard Sale is April 24, 9 a.m. to noon, on Patch Barracks. Furniture, toys, appliances and more will be available.

For more information call 0711-305-7324.

### **Taxes not done yet?**

The clock is ticking, but help is available

For tax assistance information in **Stuttgart** call 421-4588/civ. 0711-729-4588.

In **Garmisch** call 442-2516/civ. 08821-759-516 or e-mail bruce.gittinger@garmisch.army.mil.

## News & Notes

### *Ease your stress with AFRC*

The General Patton Hotel offers full-body Swedish massage (by appointment only) for \$40 per hour. This service is available daily at 4:30, 5:45, 7 and 8:15 p.m.

For more information or to make a reservation call 440-2695/civ. 08821-759-695.

### *GCSC offers scholarship*

Graduating seniors in Garmisch are eligible to compete for a scholarship offered by the Garmisch Community and Spouses Club.

For more information or an application packet e-mail Kelley Knoll at knollk@marshallcenter.org.

### *Reader's group meets monthly*

The Garmisch Reader's Group is a great opportunity for book lovers to talk about literature and meet like-minded community members. Meetings are held each month in the Garmisch Library.

For more information call Jessica Roberson at 440-2638/civ. 08821-750-638 or e-mail jessica.roberson@garmisch.army.mil.

### *'Three jewels' for Memorial Day*

Paul Dutro will be leading a Memorial Day weekend tour to three cities (one of which lies at the juncture of three rivers) in three countries.

An unbelievably cheap fee of \$189 includes transportation, two overnight accommodations, and the chance to visit Passau, Germany; Salzburg, Austria; and Cesky-Krumlov, Czech Republic.

For details call 440-2461/civ. 08821-750-461 or e-mail paul.dutro@garmisch.army.mil.

### *Volunteer ceremony April 28*

Garmisch's Volunteer Appreciation Ceremony and Luncheon is April 28. Please e-mail all volunteer hours for the past year to Patricia Howe at patricia.howe@garmisch.army.mil.

# Holzinger at helm in Garmisch

## *Area Support Team's new director 'comes home' to serve in Germany*

By Hugh C. McBride

**G**reg Holzinger has come home – in a manner of speaking. The son of a retired Army sergeant major, Holzinger was born in Hanau, graduated from a Department of Defense Dependents School in Bad Kreuznach and attended college in Munich.

Now – nearly 21 years into a government career that started with a GS-01 position in Bad Kreuznach – Holzinger has returned to Germany as director of Area Support Team Garmisch.

Though his title has changed a few times since his days in Bad Kreuznach, Holzinger said his progress has been a direct result of his early opportunities – including his DoDDS education.

"I'm sitting here today because I've had the opportunity to work with great people," he said. "My responsibility is to give the same that I've received in the past – to lay the groundwork so people can succeed."

Holzinger's ability to provide that



**Holzinger**

foundation – along with his history in community service and host-nation relations – hasn't escaped the notice of 6th Area Support Group Chief of Staff Joseph Moscone.

"Mr. Holzinger is a perfect addition to both the Area Support Team and Area Support Group. He brings a diverse range of experience in base operations, especially in the field of Morale, Welfare, Recreation, which will serve the community in Garmisch very well," Moscone said.

"As he is also fluent in German, he'll assist greatly in fostering our important working relationship with our host nation," Moscone added. "We're proud to have Greg and his wife, Jolanta, join our team."

Holzinger comes to Garmisch from Schinnen, The Netherlands, where he served as base operations manager for the 254th Base Support Battalion.

His previous assignments include a two-year stint in Alaska as post executive officer at Fort Richardson and a deployment to Bosnia, where he served in a variety of capacities.

Regardless of where his career has taken him, Holzinger said, his focus can be found in a childhood spent on U.S. military installations abroad.

"I have fun at what I do," he said. "I'm very appreciative to the U.S. Army for my time as a dependent. This is my way of saying 'thank you.'"

*I have fun at what I do.  
I'm very appreciative to the U.S. Army  
for my time as a dependent.  
This is my way of saying 'thank you.'*

**Greg Holzinger**  
*AST Garmisch*

# Neighborhood safety program **SNAPs** back

Story & photos by Melanie Casey

The reflective vests and armbands have been dusted off and distributed, the volunteers have stepped up and the training has been completed. These facts point to one thing: The 6th Area Support Group Safe Neighborhood Awareness Program is back in swing.

## *Trained eyes and ears*

The program, similar to "Neighborhood Watch" programs in the States, recently returned to the Stuttgart and Garmisch communities.

SNAP relies on volunteers to be the eyes and ears of their neighborhoods. "Who would know a neighborhood better than someone who lives there?" said Earnest Epps, Stuttgart's new SNAP coordinator.

SNAP volunteers patrol their neighborhoods in teams of two taking note of everything from suspicious activities – which they report to the military police – to unsafe playground equipment.

SNAP volunteers are trained not to intervene or take unnecessary risks.

## *Flexible hours*

Being a SNAP volunteer can fit into almost anyone's schedule, as volunteers decide how many hours they will put in and when they'll do so.

Volunteers who log a certain number of hours are eligible for prizes, including an AAFES coupon booklet and an Armed Forces Recreation Center weekend.

Stuttgart SNAP volunteer Melissa Roderffer found a way to combine community service while walking her dog, Macey.

"I figured if I'm going to be out walking around, why not do something to help the community," she said. "I can get my exercise and help at the same time."



**SNAP volunteer Melissa Roderffer sets out on her daily patrol of Patch Barracks with her husband, Gary, and their dog, Macey. Roderffer incorporates her SNAP duties into daily walks.**



**A new crop of SNAP volunteers: (From left) Melissa Roderffer, Martine Rose, Gregory Outlaw, Nicole Anderson and Vergie Outlaw.**

## *Volunteers needed*

"A lot of people don't know about SNAP," Epps said. "We want the program to be known and seen and get as many volunteers as possible on each installation."

Training in the Stuttgart area is held quarterly and rotates among the area's four installations. Stuttgart's next SNAP training is April 28, 10 a.m., in Robinson Barracks' building 168.

In Garmisch, SNAP certifications are done individually as needed, according to new Garmisch SNAP Coordinator Paul Acri.

*For more information about SNAP in Stuttgart call Epps at 421-4615/civ. 0711-729-4615 or e-mail epps@stuttgart.army.mil.*

*In Garmisch call Acri at 442-2558/civ. 08821-759-558 or e-mail paul.acri@stuapo.pmo.army.mil.*

# An afternoon of egg-cellent activities

*Stuttgart, Garmisch host Easter extravaganzas for area youth*

**By Hugh C. McBride**

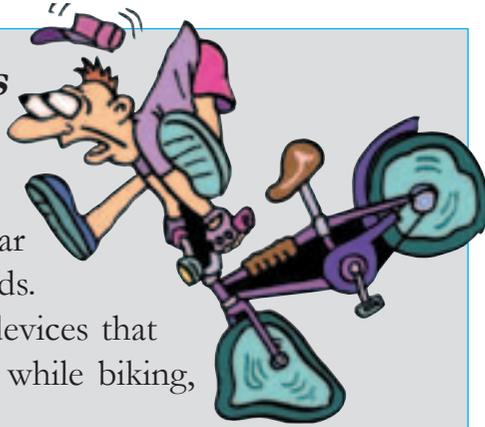
Clowns and bunnies, face-painters and food-cookers, and of course eggs – lots and lots of eggs – helped usher Easter onto U.S. military installations and into the hearts of children in the 6th Area Support Group April 10. In Stuttgart, a mad dash for prize-filled eggs on Patch Barracks' Husky Field was followed by the annual Easter Carnival in and around the Youth Services facility. The same day in Garmisch, young community members were treated to an "Egg-stravaganza" at the Pete Burke Center.

*From egg-hunters to ring-tossers, Easter events in Stuttgart and Garmisch brought families together for fun and fellowship.*



**Remember safety equipment rules**

- ◆ All bicycle riders must wear approved helmets fastened under the chin at all times.
- ◆ In-line skaters and skateboarders must wear helmets, kneepads, elbowpads and wristguards.
- ◆ Do not use cell phones or wear listening devices that impede hearing and the detection of danger while biking, in-line skating or skateboarding.



source: Army Regulation 190-1

**Rules, fines change on German roads**

By Robert Szostek

*U.S. Army, Europe, Provost Marshal Public Affairs*

Many traffic rules changed in Germany April 1. According to a press release from the Koblenz police headquarters in the German state of Rhineland-Palatinate, the following fines will result from the infractions described below:

- Making a call while driving without a “no-hands” phone system will now result in a 40-euro fine. Because tickets from 40 euros and up earn points against one’s license, making a call with a hand-held mobile phone while driving is now punished with a point, too.

- Cyclists now pay 25 euros when they are caught phoning while cycling, but do not receive a point. However, U.S. authorities assess two points against a U.S. Army, Europe license for this offense in Germany.

- A fine of 40 euros will be assessed for drivers who park their cars in such a way that they could prevent rescue vehicles from getting through a narrow street.

- Drivers who manage to go the wrong way around a traffic circle will be fined 20 euros.

- A 40-euro fine is now the penalty for people who overtake vehicles on highways at a speed that is not significantly higher than that of the vehicle being overtaken. (This measure is mainly aimed at the so-called “elephant races” between trucks on the autobahn, as the small speed difference becomes a risk for the traffic following and can lead to rear-end collisions).

Various police forces in Germany have announced that they will be increasing checks on these various traffic violations during the coming weeks to encourage people to do the right thing and drive safely.

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*For more information call the 6th Area Support Group Office of the Provost Marshal at 430-5262/civ. 0711-680-5262.*



Staff Sgt. Brian Dotson provides perimeter security during a land navigation exercise March 19 on Panzer Kaserne's Local Training Area. Many of EUCOM's enlisted Soldiers ended a week of training with a daylong series of tasks and evaluations.

## EUCOM Soldiers prepare for battle

*Training week designed to develop skills, enhance morale*

Story & photos by Hugh C. McBride



The rewards of a job well done: The final day of EUCOM's training week included a cookout.

For five days in March, enlisted Soldiers assigned to Headquarters, U.S. European Command, got ready for war.

The command held its second "Commander's Prime Time Training" week March 15 to 19 in Stuttgart.

A consolidation of a variety of education and evaluation sessions that Soldiers must complete each year, the training week took participating personnel out of their offices and into the field at Panzer Kaserne's Local Training Area and Military Operations, Urban Terrain facility.

The training was designed by several senior noncommissioned officers at EUCOM, and was coordinated by the Headquarters Commandant Training Office.

"The EUCOM mission is very heavy, and it's hard to get Soldiers out for training," said Command Sgt. Maj. John Pollard, who said the twice-yearly training weeks enhance Soldier readiness while limiting the impact on directorate staffing.

The Soldier skills addressed during the training included protecting oneself from nuclear, chemical or biological contamination, conducting route reconnaissance, performing first aid and requesting medical evacuations.

"We know that when Soldiers leave here, they are likely to go to a combat unit," Pollard said. With future deployments to Afghanistan or Iraq likely, he said, it is essential that all Soldiers master these fundamental skills.

The week culminated in a daylong field exercise in which participants were evaluated on tasks that included the following battle-relevant situations:

- Land navigation
- Accessing and using NBC protective equipment
- Conducting an emergency medical assessment and providing appropriate first aid
- Mine detection and evacuation
- Approaching and attacking a target

"I thought the training was very effective, and the Soldiers who went through it came back and told me they got a lot out of it," Pollard said.



Staff Sgt. Joseph Castro instructs a Soldier on the correct way to protect himself from contamination in the event of a nuclear, biological or chemical attack.

# Stuttgart men honored for culinary excellence

*Area Soldier, civilian compete with IMA-E team in Virginia*

By Mildred Green

Two members of the Stuttgart military community were part of the award-winning Installation Management Agency, Europe, region Culinary Arts Team that participated in the 29th Annual U.S. Army Culinary Arts Competition in Fort Lee, Va., Feb. 28 to March 12.

6th Area Support Group Executive Food Program Manager Chief Warrant Officer 3 Robert Sparks and civilian cook Frank Valdes competed with the team, which brought home eight of 12 trophies awarded during the competition and 24 total awards.

## Best team

The judging panel – which was made up of certified executive chefs and master chefs – awarded the IMA-E Culinary

Arts Team with the best overall team display award and the nutritional hot food challenge award.

Valdes, who has worked as a cook for the Army for a year and a half, finished the competition with a gold medal for a five-course meal, a bronze medal for a pulled sugar display and a bronze medal for a live cooking event.

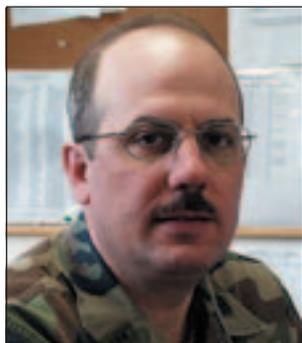
Though he felt great about his accomplishments, Valdes said, the knowledge he gained out weighed the awards.

“[The competition] was a great learning experience,” Valdes said. “I learned a lot from people there.”

Sparks, who served as the team manager, won a gold medal for carving a dragon from a 1,500-lb. block of ice with a three-man team.

The IMA-E Culinary Arts Team was made up of Sparks, Valdes (who works at the Patch Barracks Dining Facility) and five Soldiers from the 26th ASG – one of whom, Spc. Scott Graves, was named Army Chef of the Year.

In addition, four IMA-E Soldiers were selected to be part of the U.S. Army Culinary Arts Team, which will represent the Army in the International World Culinary Olympics in Erfurt, Germany, later this year.



Sparks



Valdes



Spc. Jason B. Cutshaw

**Spc. Scott Graves, a member of the IMA-E Culinary Arts Team and the Army's 2004 Senior Chef of the Year, is reflected during preparation for the 29th Annual Culinary Arts Competition Feb. 28 to March 12 in Fort Lee, Va. Two members from the Stuttgart community competed with the team, which won 24 medals.**

## Motivation to learn

Originally, Valdes was going to be a part of the IMA-E Culinary Arts Team only as an apprentice – to learn, observe and develop his burgeoning skills in the kitchen.

However, due to the high rate of deployments of area Soldiers, the usual competition to select the IMA-E team was not held this year.

When the team came up short of people, Sparks nominated Valdes, who then became a full member of the team.

After working with Valdes during Thanksgiving, Sparks said he was impressed, noting that the novice cook “actually had a sincere desire to learn.”

“He got on the team due to his motivation and enthusiasm to learn,” said Sparks. “[Valdes] has heart.”

Though the competition caused sleepless nights, Valdes said, “[it was] all worth it at the end.”

## Panzer DFAC to compete for Connelly award

As the winner of a culinary competition within the 6th Area Support Group, the Panzer Kaserne Dining Facility has been selected to compete in the 37th Philip A. Connelly Awards Program.

Governed by Army Regulation 30-22 and co-sponsored by the U.S. Army and the International Food Service Executives Association, the Connelly competition evaluates all aspects of a facility's food service program.

A panel of judges will assess the Panzer DFAC during a daylong visit May 4.

## DeCA sponsors grocery gifts

### Defense Commissary Agency

The Defense Commissary Agency and CertifiChecks Inc. have created the “Gifts of Groceries” program to help support military families.

Commissary gift certificates can be purchased online at [www.commissaries.com](http://www.commissaries.com) or by calling (U.S.) 1-877-770-GIFT.

Certificates can also be purchased by mail or fax with a form found on the Web site. A standard charge of \$4.95, paid by the purchaser, covers the costs of handling, printing and mailing.

Additional charges may apply for large orders or special deliveries, but installation charities can apply to have these fees waived.

The certificates can be given as gifts or donated to military charities, but only authorized commissary shoppers can spend them.



**Crowns abound during a round of British trivia in Claire Dickmeyer's English 12 class April 1, part of the class's annual pre-Spring Break "British Tea."**

## *PHS students enjoy tea, sonnets during annual British celebration*



**English 12 students line up for English delicacies – and a slice of AAFES-donated cake – during the annual British Tea April 1.**

Story & photos by Hugh C. McBride

**W**illiam Shakespeare would have felt right at home in Claire Dickmeyer's Patch High School classroom April 1.

As she does annually the day before Spring Break, Dickmeyer hosted a British Tea for the knights and ladies of her English 12 classes.

With such decidedly British touches as the Union Jack, Paddington Bear and model "Minis" adorning the classroom, the students – dressed in their Sunday best and topped off with tiaras and crowns – dined on scones and plum pudding and took turns reading original sonnets aloud.

"This is a day to enjoy and relax," Dickmeyer said, noting that the Tea also marks the end of a six-week-long term paper project.

Student Dwayne Bochman appreciated both the congenial atmosphere and the absence of a paper deadline.

"This was nice for the seniors – especially after the term papers," he said.

Fellow student Chris Harper said he enjoyed the Tea ("I like dressing up," he noted), but he also found value in the long hours spent on the term papers.

"Like I always say, if the work isn't tedious, then the product is meaningless," Harper said with a smile.

## Education Ctr. hosts Troops to Teachers seminar on Patch

Stuttgart Army Education Center

**T**hinking about teaching as a second career? Former service members have proven to be skilled public school teachers, and Stuttgart's Army Education Center can help more military members make the jump from the battlefield to the classroom.

The Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support will be conducting a Troops to Teachers seminar April 30 in the Patch Barracks Inprocessing Center (building 2318). The meeting will begin with a general session from 10 a.m. to noon, followed by individual counseling sessions from 1 to 4 p.m.

All adult members of the U.S. military community – including spouses and civilians – are invited to attend this seminar, which will feature Dr. John Gantz, DANTES' director of Troops to Teachers.

Gantz's topics will include the following:

- General information about Troops to Teachers
- Teacher certification and licensure requirements
- Various routes to certification
- Employment outlook in public education

### *About the program*

Troops To Teachers was established in 1994 to help retiring and separating military personnel become teachers after leaving the service. With a primary objective of recruiting quality teachers for schools that serve low-income families throughout America, the program helps relieve teacher shortages and also assists military personnel who are attempting to make successful transitions into second careers in teaching.

Troops To Teachers features a network of state placement assistance offices that provide information regarding certification requirements, programs leading to certification, and assistance in identifying teaching positions within selected states.

Financial assistance may be provided to eligible individuals as stipends up to \$5,000 to help pay for teacher certification costs or as bonuses of \$10,000 to teach in schools serving a high percentage of students from low-income families. The maximum amount of assistance is \$10,000 per person.

Participants who accept a stipend or bonus must agree to teach for three years in schools that serve students from low-income families in accordance with the authorizing legislation.

Troops To Teachers also provides referral and placement assistance services for individuals who have at least six years of active-duty service ending on or after Oct. 1, 1990.

*For more information call the Education Center at 431-2714/civ. 07031-15-714 or visit <http://ProudToServeAgain.com>.*

## School officials encourage early registration

*Online option now available to enhance ease, efficiency of process*

Department of Defense Dependents Schools  
Public Affairs Office

**D**epartment of Defense Dependents Schools throughout Europe will soon be announcing plans for school registration for the 2004-2005 academic year.

In addition to being an annual requirement (by Department of Defense regulation), this process is important for the following three reasons:

- Staffing and budgets are driven by enrollments.
- When families reregister returning students early, schools can plan to budget resources needed to support the education program.
- Early enrollments allow schools to determine the available space they have to help support contractors and other "space available" families.

School principals across Europe are working diligently to ensure that the annual registration process is efficient.

### Contact information for DoDDS schools in the 6th ASG

Böblingen Elementary: 431-2715/civ. 07031-15-715

Patch Elementary: 431-2715/civ. 0711-680-5200

Garmisch Elementary: 431-2715/civ. 08821-759-758

RB Elementary: 431-2715/civ. 0711-819-7112

Patch High School: 430-7191/civ. 0711-680-7191

This year, DoDDS has added an online option for parents to use in completing both annual registration and new registrations. The online system was developed to enhance efficiency, improve customer service and make the registration process less bureaucratic. This new feature may be accessed at [www.registration.eu.odedodea.edu](http://www.registration.eu.odedodea.edu).

As always, parents will still have to visit their child's school to sign the completed documents they have downloaded from the Web site.

This new option for parents will dramatically change the way DoDDS conducts this year's registration drives, and our goal is to move toward total online capability to improve efficiency and service.

DoDDS-Europe is committed to hosting a successful registration drive to improve services to our military and civilian families.

*For more information visit [www.eu.odedodea.edu](http://www.eu.odedodea.edu).*

# Return of the ring

## 'Battle of the Titans' brings boxing back to Stuttgart

Story & photos by  
Hugh C. McBride

**T**his time, Stuttgart was *really* ready to rumble.

Two months after boxing's long-awaited return to Patch Barracks, the Patch Fitness Center hosted "The Battle of the Titans," a night of fights between service members from U.S. military communities throughout Germany.

Building on the success of a fight night in February, the April 3 "Titans" card featured eight bouts, as well as live musical performances courtesy of Stuttgart's Big FM radio station.

"It's a wonderful thing when so many people can work together to create such a fantastic event," said Christie Lawler of the 6th Area Support Group's Morale, Welfare and Recreation Marketing Department.

The evening began with the posting of the colors by Patch JROTC cadet DeAndre Tryon and the singing of the national anthem by Stuttgart's Sgt. 1st Class Charmaine Rogers.

After opening remarks – including the traditional exhortation of "Let's get ready to rumble!" – from 6th Area Support Group Commander Col. Gwendolyn Bonéy-Harris, the competition was underway.

*I'll be back –  
this is addicting.*

**Michael Welsh**  
*Boxer*

All eight fights were scheduled for four one-minute rounds, but half the bouts ended early due to disqualifications or injury defaults.

By the evening's end, the crowd of more than 300 had witnessed 27 rounds of fighting, four hip-hop and country-western performances, and the birth of at least one boxing career.

"I'll be back – this is addicting," said Michael Welsh of Wiesbaden, who defeated Friedberg's Trevar Meyeres in a fight that was stopped in the fourth round.

"I've tried pretty much every other sport, so I thought I'd give this one a try," Welsh said. "I was nervous at the start, but like in rugby once you get that first hit, that all goes away."

Welsh said enthusiasm outshone strategy in his first foray into the ring. "I was having too much fun out there to notice how I was doing," he said.



**[Above]** Craig Landau of the Ilesheim Health Clinic lands a right to the chin of Friedberg's Jesse Deiatorre during the first fight of the eight-bout "Battle of the Titans" April 3 in the Patch Fitness Center.

**[Left]** Alector Tavares basks in a breeze generated by his cornerman between rounds of his bout against Giebelstadt's Ken Torregamo. Tavares was one of five Friedberg fighters to enter the ring April 3 in Stuttgart.