

## 38th Engineer company deactivates 38th Engineers join 502nd Engineers to create multi-role bridge company

By Jayme Loppnow  
130th Engineer Brigade Public Affairs Office

The 565 Engineer Battalion, 130th Engineer Brigade, cased the 38th Engineer Company's guidon for the last time at a ceremony Sept. 15 at Camp Virginia, Kuwait, and said goodbye to a company steeped in military history dating back to 1915. The company was deactivated to merge the medium girder bridge company missions with the assault float bridge missions of the 502nd Engineer Company and ultimately create a multi-role bridge company.

"The purpose is to give the company the ability to be flexible," said Lt. Col. Jose Ramos, 565th Engineer Battalion commander. "What happens if you have the wrong type of bridge company for the wrong type of mission? The answer is to give them flexibility by combining the two. It has also opened up 108 soldier slots in the U.S. Army."

The requirement for all U.S. Army bridging companies to merge came about two years ago, and the 502nd was the last to complete the reorganization. The company planned to deactivate in March, but that was postponed with the onset of Operation Iraqi Freedom, said Capt. Carrington Stoffels, former commander of the 38th Engineer Company.

Stoffels said they would have received six months to plan for the deactivation and merge, but because of their deployed status they were given about a month, which posed a challenge to meet the deadline.

Stoffels said the biggest challenge was giving up the

company, which was a tight-knit group. "It's like breaking up a good football team," said Stoffels. "It's tough. We put a lot of hard work in. We were probably the best bridge company in the Army, and we had the rug pulled out from under us. Hopefully the soldiers going off to the 502nd will carry the spirit of the 38th with them."

The 502nd Engineer Company still has some work to do before it will be capable of multi-role bridge company missions with excess equipment turn-in and new equipment training scheduled for the soldiers upon redeployment to Hanau sometime in October.

Capt. Joshua Stringer, 502nd Company commander, said knowledge from the 38th will carry over to the 502nd.

"We've got quite a few soldiers from the 38th so the expertise will transfer over from one company to the next. But because it is so large we will still need to conduct training," said Stringer. "We're going to have to do both missions at one point and maybe even simultaneously. It's always sad to see a unit go away. People put their hearts and souls into a unit and follow the guidon because it is a symbol of pride. They are closing a door but they are reopening one right away."

"It was probably the closest feeling I had to being at a wake in a long time," said Ramos. "You could feel the emotion.



Photo by Jayme Loppnow

Soldiers of 38th Engineer Company furl their guidon for the last time.

You can always hope that the unit comes back. We said goodbye to a unit that has a long history dating back to 1915 but at the same time it's exciting. Transformation is the future of the Army and we have to be flexible. When you look around there is constant change," Ramos added. "There are a lot more changes coming. We just don't know which ones yet."

Get the latest news online at [www.hanau.army.mil](http://www.hanau.army.mil)



### More community notes

**Continued from page 20**  
the computer and its use in the workplace. Some knowledge of keyboarding/typing is helpful, but no knowledge of computers is presumed. The class is Nov. 17-21, Monday to Friday, 1-5 p.m. It is free to all eligible active duty soldiers. Enrollment is limited. Visit the Pioneer Education Center or call mil 322-8380.

#### Story hour help

Preschool story hour volunteers are needed to do crafts and read books to the children every Thursday from 10-11 a.m. at Pioneer Library. Call Christi Bayha at mil 322-9657/8942 to help.

#### Child care job

Part-time child care workers are needed during the Sunday morning Protestant service at Fliegerhorst chapel. The job is a paid contract position. For information call Chaplain Longworth at mil 322-9609 or civ (06181) 88-9609 or Chaplain Horton at mil 322-9307/8120 or civ (06181) 88-9307/8120.

#### Reggae concert

A spokeswoman for the "Mr. Vegas" reggae concert, to be held

at Hanau's Black Sounds, called to apologize for providing the incorrect date in the last edition of the *Herald Union*. Mr. Vegas will be performing Nov. 21, not Nov. 14. The concert starts at 10 p.m. and will feature a dance contest.

#### Shopping trip

Let Outdoor Rec take you shopping in Karlovy Vary and the Asian Flea Market, Nov. 15. The bus departs at 3 a.m. Saturday, arrives in Karlovy Vary at 10 a.m., departs at 2 p.m. for the flea market in Cheb and returns to Hanau at 11 p.m. All travelers must have a U.S. passport. Cost is \$45 adults, \$35 children.

#### USO Classes

Clutter Clearing — Nov. 12, noon to 1 p.m.

Nov. 19, noon to 1 p.m. Sign up by Nov. 18. Cost is \$10.

Learn why clutterholics feel a need to keep so much "stuff" and how to approach clutter clearing in a systematic manner. USO is in Building 4 on Pioneer Kaserne. Call mil 322-8725 or civ (06181) 56119.

For information about shopping, parks, museums and other "things to do" visit [www.hanau.army.mil](http://www.hanau.army.mil).



# Bulletin board

## At the movies Nov. 11-27

### Baumholder, Wagon Wheel

- Nov. 13 — S.W.A.T. (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 14-15 — Mystic River (R) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 16 — Seabiscuit (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 20 — The Medallion (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 21-22 — Runaway Jury (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 23 — My Boss's Daughter (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 27 — Cabin Fever (R) 7 p.m.

### Büdingen, Little

Closed

### Dexheim, Rhein

- Nov. 14 — Seabiscuit (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 15 — Runaway Jury (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 16 — The Medallion (PG-13) 3 p.m.
- Nov. 21 — Cabin Fever (R) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 22 — Radio (PG) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 23 — My Boss's Daughter (PG-13) 3 p.m.

### Friedberg, Old Ironsides

- Nov. 13 — Marci X (R) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 14-15 — Out Of Time (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 16 — Open Range (R) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 14-15 — Out Of Time (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 16 — Open Range (R) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 20 — Freddy Vs. Jason (R) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 21-22 — Mystic River (R) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 23 — Seabiscuit (PG-13) 7 p.m.

### Giessen, Skyline

- Nov. 11-12 — The Rundown (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 14 — Freddy Vs. Jason (R) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 15 — Open Range (R) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 16 — Grind (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 18-19 — Out Of Time (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 21 — Seabiscuit (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 22 — The Medallion (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 23 — Cabin Fever (R) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 25-26 — Mystic River (R) 7 p.m.

### Hanau, Evening Star

- Nov. 11 — Freddy Vs. Jason (R) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 12 — S.W.A.T. (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 13 — Freddy Vs. Jason (R) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 14 — Brother Bear (G) 4 p.m. The Medallion (PG-13) 7 p.m. Seabiscuit (PG-13) 9:30 p.m.
- Nov. 15 — Brother Bear (G) 4 p.m. Freddy Vs. Jason (R) 9:30 p.m.
- Nov. 16 — Brother Bear (G) 4 p.m. The Medallion (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 17 — Seabiscuit (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 18 — The Medallion (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 19 — Seabiscuit (PG-13) 7 p.m. S.W.A.T. (PG-13) 9:30 p.m.
- Nov. 20 — The Medallion (PG-13) 7 p.m.



Papa Elf (Bob Newhart, left) talks with his adopted son, Buddy (Will Ferrell) in "Elf."

- Nov. 21 — Elf (PG) 7 p.m. The Matrix Revolutions (R) 9:30 p.m.
- Nov. 22 — Elf (PG) 4 p.m. The Matrix Revolutions (R) 7 and 9:30 p.m.
- Nov. 23 — Elf (PG) 4 p.m. The Matrix Revolutions (R) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 24 — Cabin Fever (R) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 25 — Dickie Roberts: Former Child Star (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 26 — Cabin Fever (R) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 27 — Dickie Roberts: Former Child Star (PG-13) 7 p.m.

### Rhein Main, Gardens

- Nov. 12 — Radio (PG) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 14 — Seabiscuit (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 15 — The Medallion (PG-13) 5 p.m. Mystic River (R) 7:30 p.m.
- Nov. 16 — Bad Boys 2 (R) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 19 — Brother Bear (G) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 21 — My Boss's Daughter (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 22 — Dickie Roberts: Former Child Star (PG-13) 5 p.m. Cabin Fever (R) 7:30 p.m.
- Nov. 23 — Runaway Jury (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 26-27 — The Matrix Revolutions (R) 7 p.m.

### Wackernheim, McCully

- Nov. 13 — Runaway Jury (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 19 — Radio (PG) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 26 — Cold Creek Manor (R) 7 p.m.

### Wiesbaden, Flyers

- Nov. 13 — Radio (PG) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 14 — The Medallion (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 15 — Seabiscuit (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 20 — Brother Bear (G) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 21 — My Boss's Daughter (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 22 — Cabin Fever (R) 7 p.m.

### Wiesbaden, Taunus

- Nov. 11 — Open Range (R) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 12 — S.W.A.T. (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 13 — Freddy Vs. Jason (R) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 14 — Radio (PG) 7 p.m. Seabiscuit (PG-13) 9:30 p.m.
- Nov. 15 — Radio (PG) 4 p.m. The Medallion (PG-13) 7 p.m. Seabiscuit (PG-13) 9:30 p.m.
- Nov. 16 — Radio (PG) 4 p.m. The Medallion (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 17 — Radio (PG) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 18 — Seabiscuit (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 19 — The Medallion (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 20 — Seabiscuit (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 21 — Brother Bear (G) 7 p.m. Cabin Fever (R) 9:30 p.m.
- Nov. 22 — Brother Bear (G) 4 p.m. My Boss's Daughter (PG-13) 7 p.m. Dickie Roberts: Former Child Star (PG-13) 9:30 p.m.
- Nov. 23 — Brother Bear (G) 4 p.m. My Boss's Daughter (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 24 — Seabiscuit (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 25 — Dickie Roberts: Former Child Star (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 26 — My Boss's Daughter (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Nov. 27 — Brother Bear (G) 4 p.m. Elf (PG) 7 p.m.

## Movie plots

**Elf (G)** — Will Ferrell stars as Buddy, who as a baby crawls into Santa's toy bag and is whisked off to the North Pole where he is raised as an elf. A misfit who grows to be three times the size of his elf family, Buddy heads to his birthplace of New York City to seek his roots. They turn out to be a Scrooge-like father (James Caan) and a cynical 8-year-old stepbrother who doesn't believe in Santa. Worst of all, everyone seems to have forgotten the true meaning of Christmas. Also stars Ed Asner, Bob Newhart, Mary Steenburgen and Zooey Deschanel.

**The Matrix Revolutions (R)** — The rebels' long quest for freedom culminates in an explosive battle in the third and final chapter of "The Matrix" series. As the machine army devastates Zion, its citizens put up a defense in the hopes that Neo (Keanu Reeves) can end the war.

**Brother Bear (G)** — Kenia is killed by a bear. His younger Native American brother seeks to avenge his death by killing the bear, but the Great Spirit has another lesson in mind and transform the young man into the thing he detests most — a bear.

**Cabin Fever (R)** — As a last hurrah after college, friends Jeff, Karen, Paul, Marcy and Bert embark on a vacation in the mountains. They drive to a remote cabin to enjoy their last days before entering the working world. Then somebody gets sick. Karen's skin starts to bubble and burn as something grows inside her, tunneling beneath her flesh. The survivors have to find help before they're all killed by the virus, or by the local lynch mob out to destroy anyone who may have come in contact with the disease.

**Dickie Roberts: Former Child Star (PG-13)** — Back in the '70s, little Dickie Roberts could do no wrong. The beloved child star of the popular sitcom, "The Glimmer Gang," was adored by millions. Suddenly the ratings slipped, his show was cancelled and the Dickie Roberts phenomenon ended for everyone — except for Dickie. Desperate to rise from the obscurity he plunged into after puberty, Dickie (David Spade), now a 35-year-old parking valet, is willing to do anything — from celebrity boxing matches to cosmetic surgery — to get his career back on track.

**My Boss's Daughter (PG-13)** — Young executive Tom Stansfield (Ashton Kutcher) has the opportunity of his lifetime — he can impress his megalomaniac boss and the boss's daughter, Lisa, by house-sitting their lavish mansion for one night. It's a plan that could lead to love and success, if only the guests didn't keep arriving. One by one, a barrage of wild and crazy visitors take over the house he's supposed to be watching.

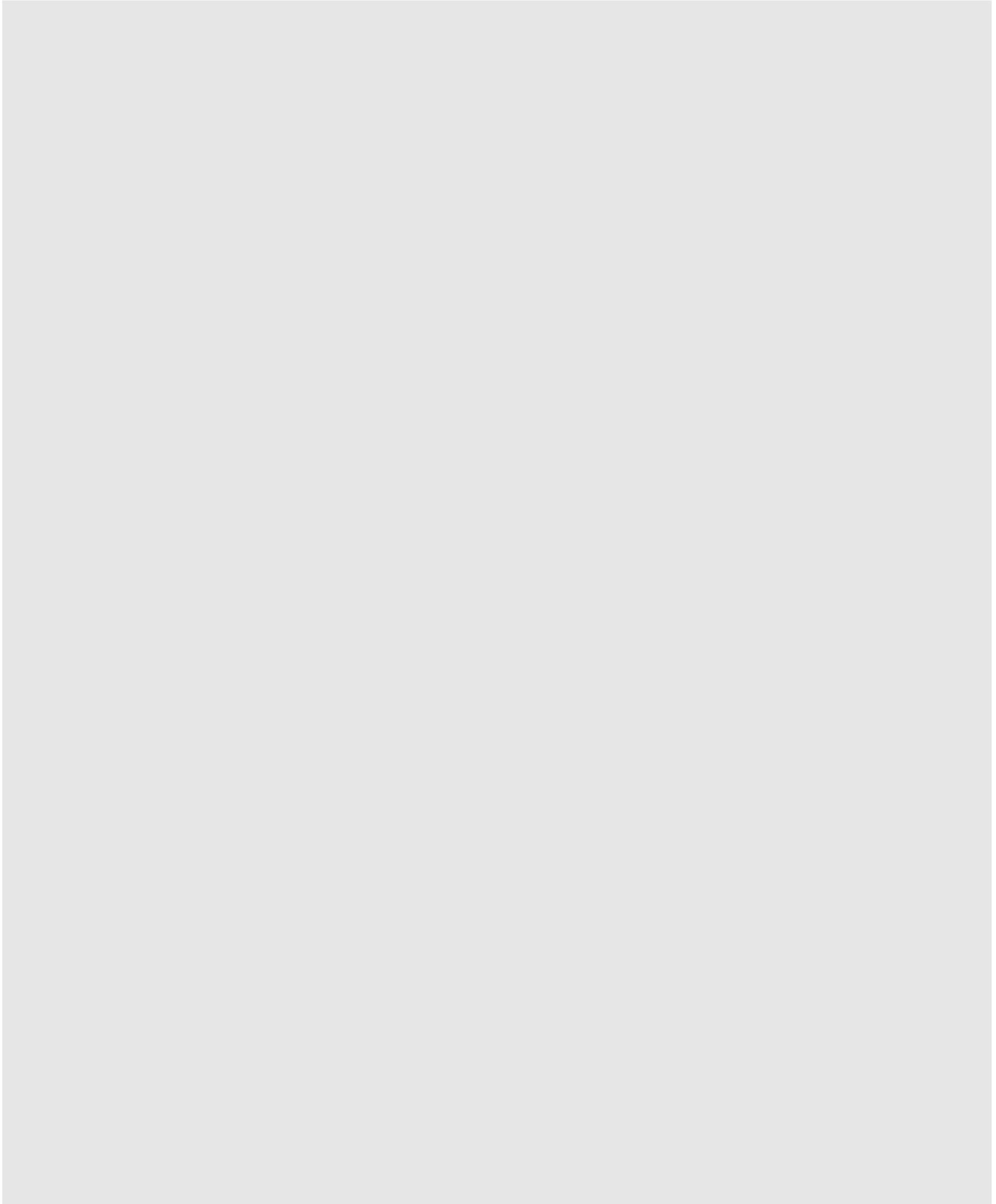


Cerina Vincent stars in "Cabin Fever," a film about a group of young people on vacation in a remote mountain resort, confronted with a horrific disease which threatens to take them out one by one.

**Movies and times subject to change by local theaters. For the most up-to-date schedule visit the ASG's website (see address below).**

# *Herald Union classifieds*

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# Sports and leisure

## Take a hike

By Donald Seltzer  
Special to the Herald Union



The 2004 schedule of events in Germany, better known as the *DVV Terminliste*, is now available. This useful booklet lists dates, locations, points of contact and other information for each of the scheduled events in Germany. Look for the international edition of the IVV calendar to be available soon.

Full listings of volksmarch events in the 104th Area Support Group may be found on the web at [www.104thasg.hanau.army.mil](http://www.104thasg.hanau.army.mil). Readers are asked, whenever possible, to pick up an extra set of event brochures for this column and mail them to 104th ASG, Herald Union Volksmarch, Unit 20193 Box 0001, APO AE 09165-0001.

### Weekend of Nov. 22-23

**Bingen-Kempton**—This event offers a scenic view of the Rhein River and is easily reached via Autobahn. Take the Bingen-Gaulsheim exit of Autobahn 60 to follow an unnumbered road and IVV directional signs to the start. **Start:** Sportheim Hassia **Saturday and Sunday:** 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. (5 km), 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. (10 km) and 7:30 a.m. to noon (20 km) **Trail:** Somewhat hilly, mostly fields, some woods **Award:** Wax wall plaque.

### Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 27

**Ramstein**—The Ramstein Roadrunners club hosts its annual Thanksgiving Day event, a friendly and relaxing family activity despite its distance from the 104th ASG. I suggest making reservations to enjoy the Thanksgiving buffet at the Officers Club—it's an amazing spread—and spending a night or two in guest lodging. Call the central reservations desk at civ (06371) 454 920. Reach Ramstein via Autobahns 5 and 6, exiting at Landstuhl/Air Base to follow IVV directional signs.

**Start:** Turnhalle **Thursday:** 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. (6 and 10 km) **Trail:** Slightly hilly, fields and forests **Award:** From previous events **Notes:** American associate awards officer will be present.

### Weekend of Nov. 29-30

**Kirchen-Freusburg**—Enjoy this scenic area southwest of Siegen at this event. Maps indicate a castle at Freusburg, a town of touristic interest. From Giessen take Autobahn 45 toward Siegen and exit at Wilnsdorf. Follow an unnumbered road to Neunkirchen and Betzdorf, then B-62 to Kirchen and Freusburg.

**Start:** Bürgerhaus **Saturday and Sunday:** 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. (6 and 10 km) and 8 a.m. to noon (20 km) **Trail:** Hilly, woods **Award:** Backpack **Notes:** Germany's Nikolaus offers small gifts for children Sunday.

**Mainz-Lerchenberg**—South-southwest of Mainz, this walk is easy to reach via the Autobahn. Look for Germany's version of Santa Claus at this Nikolauswanderung event. Take Autobahn 60 to the Mainz-Lerchenberg exit and follow IVV directional signs to the start.

**Start:** Carl-Zuckmayer-Schule **Saturday and Sunday:** 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. (6 and 10 km) and 8 a.m. to noon (15 km) **Trail:** Flat, fields and some woods; trail-friendly only to large-wheeled strollers **Award:** Ceramic scent oven.

**Neustadt (Hessen)**—This walk is northeast of Giessen and requires a bit of a drive. Follow B-3, B-62 and B-454 north and east through Stadtallendorf.

**Start:** Turn- und Sporthalle (formerly ERGEE property) **Sunday:** 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. (5 and 10 km) **Trail:** Hilly, mostly woods **Award:** Santa figurine.

### Weekend of Dec. 6-7

**Winterbach**—This walk is roughly midway between Idar-Oberstein and Bad Kreuznach. Germany's version of Santa Claus, Nikolaus, will offer young wanderers a small gift. From Idar-Oberstein take B-41 toward Bad Kreuznach. Readers in the Wiesbaden-Mainz area should head to Bad Kreuznach and connect with B-41 toward Idar-Oberstein. Pick up an unnumbered road at Waldböckelheim to drive north through Bockenau and Winterburg to Winterbach. Watch for IVV directional signs.

**Start:** Halle **Saturday and Sunday:** 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. (6 and 10 km) **Trail:** Fairly hilly, woods and fields **Award:** From previous events **Notes:** Use caution when driving in the area if weather conditions are poor.

**Metz, France**—This hugely popular Saturday-only evening walk offers wanderers a tour of this historic city's illuminated monuments and buildings while passing through a Christmas market. West of Saarbrücken, Metz is easy to reach and well worth the drive. Take Autobahns 67 and 64 to Saarbrücken and cross the border on French Autobahn A-4/E-50.

Watch for Metz Illuminée directional signs.

**Start:** Palais des Sports, Boulevard Saint Symphorien **Saturday:** 3-9 p.m. (10 km) **Trail:** Flat, city streets **Award:** IVV credit only **Notes:** The highway between Metz and the German border is a toll road.

Questions? Send queries via email to [volksmarch@hotmail.com](mailto:volksmarch@hotmail.com).



## Things to do

### 'An Evening Without Jennifer Lopez'

Wiesbaden's Amelia Earhart Playhouse presents this zany spoof on American life in sketches and songs Nov. 20-23 and Dec. 4-7 at 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$10 per adult, \$3 for students and senior citizens. Call mil 336-2473 or civ (0611) 861-2473 for reservations.

### 'Out Of Bounds'

Frankfurt's Internationales Theater presents the English-speaking play, "Out Of Bounds," a story about Lal and his extended Indian family living in a township on the outskirts of Durban, South Africa, Nov. 11-15 at 8 p.m. Tickets are 15 euros. Call civ (069) 499 0980. The theater is located at Hanauer Landstrasse 7.

### Christmas markets

Cities throughout Germany feature traditional holiday markets with all the trimmings—handcrafted items, Lebkuchen and Glühwein, toys and more. Upcoming dates for local markets are: **Bad Kreuznach** Nov. 27 to Dec. 7, **Darmstadt** Nov. 24 to Dec. 23, **Frankfurt** Nov. 26 to Dec. 22, **Giessen** Nov. 28 to Dec. 22, **Heidelberg** Nov. 26 to Dec. 22, **Kaiserslautern** Nov. 24 to Dec. 22, **Michelstadt** Nov. 28 to Dec.

21, **Offenbach** Nov. 24 to Dec. 23, **Wiesbaden** Nov. 25 to Dec. 23, **Mainz** Nov. 27 to Dec. 23, **Rüsselsheim** Dec. 4-7, **Aschaffenburg** Nov. 27 to Dec. 21, **Frankfurt Flughafen** Nov. 28 to Dec. 26, **Hanau** Nov. 28 to Dec. 21, **Bingen** Dec. 12-14 and **Dreieich-Dreieichenhain** Dec. 13-14.

### Alte Oper performances

Frankfurt's Alte Oper features the following highlights in the coming weeks: the **World Guitar Ensemble** Nov. 14, **Vonda Shepard** Nov. 18, **John McLaughlin and Remember Shakti** Nov. 22, the **London Symphony Orchestra** performing works by Beethoven Nov. 24, the **King's Consort** Nov. 25, the **Jackson Singers** Nov. 30, the **Festival Strings Lucerne** playing works by Scarlatti, Bach and Honegger Dec. 5, **The New York Voices** Dec. 10, **Bach's Christmas Oratory** Dec. 14 and "**West Side Story**" Dec. 17 to Jan. 4. Call civ (069) 1340 400 for tickets.

### USO trips

Local Rhein Main Area USOs offer a range of trips in the coming weeks. Among the highlights are: **Amsterdam** Nov. 14-16; **Rhein River cruises** Nov. 15, 29 and Dec. 13; **Rothenburg ob der Tauber** Nov. 22; **Cologne by train** Nov. 22; **holiday feast in Bad Kreuznach** Nov. 22; **Black For-**



Photo by Karl Weisel

Skiers of all ages and abilities will find the right level of challenge and instruction on the slopes this winter at AFRC in Garmisch-Partenkirchen. See information at right for special R&R packages available.

**est shopping and Triberg** Nov. 23; **Thanksgiving in London** Nov. 26-30; **Bavarian castles** Nov. 28; **Poland and Czech Republic shopping** Dec. 5-7; **Eric the Red wine tasting** Dec. 6; **Frankfurt Christmas Market** Dec. 6; **Bamberg Christmas Market** Dec. 7; **Metz Christmas Market** Dec. 13; **Openheim wine tasting** Dec. 13;

**Evelin's Wellness Paradise** Dec. 16; **Christmas in Strasbourg** Dec. 19; **Christmas in Rome** Dec. 22-28; **New Year's in Paris** Dec. 29 to Jan. 1. Stop by your local USO for more information.

### Holiday gathering

The Kaiserslautern American German Business Club and Ger-

man American International Women's Club host a holiday gathering Thanksgiving brunch at the Ramstein Officers Club Nov. 23 at 11 a.m. Cost is 18 euros per person. Make reservations by contacting Larry Zani at [Larry\\_Zani@compuserve.com](mailto:Larry_Zani@compuserve.com) by Nov. 18.

### AFRC R&R offer

The Armed Forces Recreation Center in Garmisch-Partenkirchen features a special package for service members and their families taking leave from service in Iraq. AFRC's Operation Iraqi Freedom R&R program includes two overnights at the General Von Steuben Hotel, two dinners and two breakfasts. The price for a service member and spouse starts at \$120. Single service member packages start at \$90. Children age 12 and under stay, dine and recreate for free. Youth ages 13-17 traveling with their parents are charged \$18. While staying at the resort, guest may participate in a scheduled day of recreation or tour for \$15. Complimentary items at the Garmisch hotel include family portraits, video games, a welcome kit, movie nights and more. For more information browse to [www.afrc-europe.com](http://www.afrc-europe.com) or call the Vacation Planning Center at mil 440-2575, civ (08821) 72981. Be sure to mention that you are on R&R leave when making reservations. (AFRC Press Release)

# Sports and leisure

## Sports shorts

### Prep football

Congratulations to the Baumholder Buccaneers and Wiesbaden Warriors football teams for making it to the Department of Defense Dependents Schools-Europe Super Six Football Championships in Baumholder Nov. 1. While both teams fell victim to stronger teams — Baumholder to Ansbach with a punishing 43-6 loss and Wiesbaden to Ramstein 7-6 — they did their schools proud by claiming the second place berths in their divisions. Wiesbaden Coach Darryl Schwartz was also proud to report that six of his players also were named to the Division One All-Conference Team — Edmond Woods, Dan Villareal, Dereck Almen, Paul Fry, Steve Barber and Mike Floyd.

### Dragons' demise

National Football League Europe officials announced Oct. 28 that the Barcelona Dragons would cease to exist. Low attendance at Barcelona home games was the reason for the decision to disband the team, officials said. (*NFL-Europe Release*)

### Getting fit

Fliegerhorst Fitness Center holds **Introduction to Fitness and Exercise** classes every Tuesday and Wednesday at 6 p.m. **Women's Fitness Night** is every Thursday at 6 p.m. For details call mil 322-7672.

Hanau's Pioneer Fitness Center features a five-day workout program including **aerobics** on Wednesdays from 6-7 p.m., **pilates/yoga** Tuesdays from 5-6 p.m. and **spinning** on Mondays, Thursdays and Fridays from 6-7 p.m. Cost is \$3 per class or 12 classes for \$30. Call mil 322-8197 for details.

### Dexheim Biathlon

Dexheim Fitness Center will be the site of a Team 221st biathlon Nov. 22. Events include a 20-kilometer bike race and a 10-K run. The race starts at 10 a.m. Call mil 334-5746.

### Thanksgiving b-ball

Wiesbaden's Tony Bass Fitness Center holds its sixth annual Thanksgiving Basketball Tournament for men and women Nov. 26 and 28-30. Cost is \$250 per team including T-shirts. Call mil 337-5943 or 5379 for details.

### Turkey Shoot

Baumholder's Rolling Hills Golf Course holds a scramble-format Turkey Shoot Nov. 15 at 9 a.m. Entry is \$25. Non-members must pay a greens fee. Sign-up deadline is Nov. 12. Call mil 485-6172 for details.

### Powerlifting tourney

Giessen's Miller Hall Fitness Center will be the site of a Powerlifting Tournament Nov. 15. Registration is from 8-10 a.m. The competition starts at 10:30 a.m. Cost to enter is \$20 including a T-shirt. Call mil 343-6384 for details.



Photo by Dennis Johnson

Some 13,000 runners and inline skaters were at the starting line of this year's Frankfurt Marathon.

## Laufen Crew takes on marathon Hanau runners race in annual Frankfurt distance run

Story and photos by Dennis Johnson

414th Base Support Battalion Public Affairs Office

Hanau's "Laufen Crew" joined more than 13,000 international runners and inline skaters Oct. 26 to compete in the annual Frankfurt Marathon.

Gail Gilderoy, Beth Stegall, Jürgen Williams and Jessica Winter participated in a new event offered this year, a relay-race marathon for a team of four. Although most members of the Laufen Crew have run complete marathons before — they've got the legs for going all 26 miles 385 yards — they decided it would be fun to compete in a marathon as a team.

The Laufen Crew is an informal group of Americans living in Hanau who are passionate about running and racing. These fleet-footed enthusiasts train together, socialize together and travel all over Europe for races. The week before Frankfurt's distance race they attended the Amsterdam Marathon where they ran a half-marathon. "Two races in a week are tough enough, but running full marathons within a week would be out of the question," said Williams, who competed at Giessen's Schifflenberg Castle Run the day before (*see page 28*).

Gilderoy, Stegall and Williams traveled together by train to the Frankfurt Messe for the start of the race. Since Gail Gilderoy was to lead off the race, she took up her position in the crowd of 10,000 runners and waited for the start. At 11 a.m. the world class runners with several East Africans out front, exploded onto the course with 10,000 amateur runners following somewhat more leisurely. The entire mass of runners took nearly 10 minutes to

pass the starting line.

Stegall and Williams, who were slated to run the second and third legs, jumped on public transportation to take up their starting positions at different locations around Frankfurt. The trains that shuttled runners and spectators to points around the course were packed like the Tokyo subway at rush hour. "I waited 25 minutes for a train to come and made it to my starting point in the relay with just 10 minutes to spare. It was close," said Williams.

### Pass the 'hankie'

Gilderoy finished the 12-K first leg and Stegall, a publicity specialist for the 104th ASG Marketing Department, took the "hat" for the 5K second leg of the race. Hat? Instead of batons, which are used in many relay races, these relay-marathon runners were given a square of cloth, which was instantly known as "the hankie," to pass. They must have run out of hankies, because Gilderoy had a hat to pass to Stegall. "Just take the hat, don't ask," Gail said when we made the exchange," Stegall said.

Williams, first sergeant for the 104th ASG's Headquarters and Headquarters Company, received the hat for the 15-K third leg and was fortunate enough to run along the scenic riverside. But with a 45-degree breeze blowing across the river, the scenery was not foremost in his mind. "Man, it was cold along the river. I nearly froze," said Williams.

Winter, the fourth member of the Laufen Crew relay team and a 104th ASG Directorate of Logistics transportation specialist, came to the marathon directly from working the arriving R&R flights at Rhein-Main Air Base. "I'd been up since 3 a.m. We worked an early

flight and then I rushed downtown. I was so nervous that I wouldn't find the way to my assigned spot," said Winter.

Fortunately she made it to the Frankfurt-Nied train stop where the fourth leg started with an hour to spare. Winter was able to cheer on the first runners to pass by, relax, stretch and watch for Williams to arrive. After Winter took the hat and started out on the final leg of the race, Williams received his participant medal from the race staff, grabbed a drink and headed back onto the course within a minute. He caught up with Winter and they ran the last leg of the race together crossing the finish line with a time of 3:47:23. The finish line was situated inside the Frankfurt Messe complex and the runners ended the marathon running on a red carpet.

"We sure got the red-carpet treatment. There were lights, TV cameras and big screen displays. It was so exciting to be there," said Winter. "It's always great to have people cheering you on and to see others you know in the race and cheer them on too."

Two hundred thousand people lined the course all around Frankfurt, cheering the runners surrounded by a festival atmosphere of music, grilling Bratwurst, fresh pretzels and hot apple wine.

The marathon was won by Kenyan Boaz Kimayo in a time of 2:09:28, a new Frankfurt marathon record. Luminita Zaituc, a Romanian living in Germany, was the first woman finisher, her second win at Frankfurt, with a time of 2:29:41.

After the race the runners rejuvenated their weary bodies with oatmeal cookies, bananas, energy drinks and the favorite training drink of all German runners, free beer. As Stegall observed, "One must stay hydrated."

# Sports and leisure



Photos by Alexandra Williams

## **Fleet feet at the Schiffenberg**

Fourteen runners braved the elements to take part in the Five-Kilometer Pumpkin/Red Ribbon Week Run at Giessen's Schiffenberg Castle Oct. 25. Two individuals also took part in the Three-K Family Fun Walk. Giessen's Matt Jemmot was the fastest finisher claiming the Male Open (age 18-29) category in a time of 19:59. Friedberg's Robin Horton (photo above right) was the fastest woman finisher claiming the Female Open in 22:04. Other winners were: Friedberg's Maria Aver, second

place, and Baumholder's Melissa Paccarelli, third, in the Female Open category; Baumholder's Tammy Stromme, first, Baumholder's Stephanie Dickson, second, and Baumholder's Melissa Keziah, third, Female Seniors (age 30-39); Friedberg's Michael Lewis, second, and Giessen's Christopher MacKay, third, Male Open; Giessen's Mark Pezel (photo left), first, Male Seniors; and Hanau's Jürgen Williams, first, Male Seniors age 40 and up.