

414th BSB – Büdingen, Hanau



Photos by Dennis Johnson

German-American barbecue gives thanks for force protection

The 414th Base Support Battalion hosted a German-American barbecue as a “thank you” for local force protection providers. The event was held at the Hanau Rod and Gun Club Aug. 26. Approximately 150 German and 50 American guests enjoyed grilled steaks, chicken, ribs and all the fixings catered by the Community Activities Center on Fliegerhorst Kaserne. Prominent German guests included County Disaster Prevention and Fire Chief Wolfgang Koehler, Bundeswehr Verteidigungsbezirkskommando 47 commander Hans-Juergen Folkerts and six mayors from towns within the 414th BSB footprint. Left: American-style food is grilled on a barbecue by the CAC caterers. Above left: Main-Kinzig County Commissioner Karl Eyerkauffer (center) and police chief of Southeast Hessen, Guenter Hefner (right), are welcomed by Lt. Col. Amy Ehmann, 414th BSB commander. Above right: Ehmann receives a gift from Juergen Michaelis, the mayor of Gelnhausen.



Bulletin board

At the movies Sept. 16 to Oct. 3

Baumholder, Wagon Wheel

- Sept. 18 — 28 Days Later (R) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 19-20 — Open Range (R) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 21 — Sinbad: Legend Of The Seven Seas (PG) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 25 — Terminator 3: Rise Of The Machines (R) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 26-27 — Marci X (R) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 28 — The League Of Extraordinary Gentlemen (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Oct. 2 — Johnny English (PG) 7 p.m.

Büdingen, Little

- Sept. 20 — Rugrats Go Wild (PG) 3 p.m.
- Sept. 27 — From Justin To Kelly (PG) 3 p.m.

Dexheim, Rhein

- Sept. 19 — Terminator 3: Rise Of The Machines (R) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 20 — Marci X (R) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 21 — Legally Blonde 2: Red White And Blonde (PG-13) 3 p.m.
- Sept. 26 — The League Of Extraordinary Gentlemen (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 27 — Jeepers Creepers 2 (R) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 28 — Johnny English (PG) 3 p.m.

Friedberg, Old Ironsides

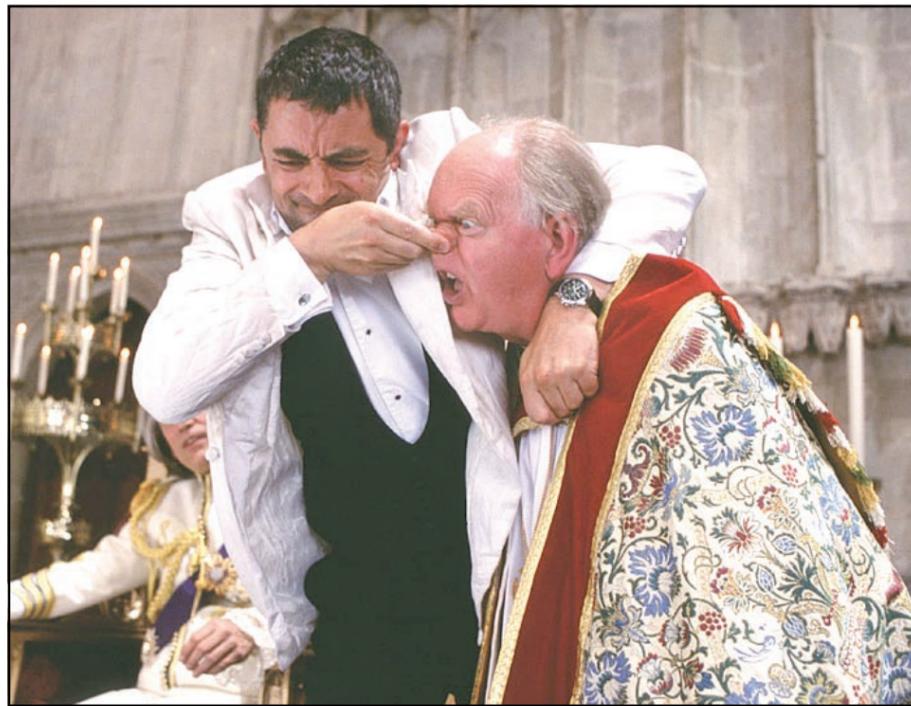
- Sept. 18 — Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 19-20 — S.W.A.T. (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 21 — Sinbad: Legend Of The Seven Seas (PG) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 25 — Terminator 3: Rise Of The Machines (R) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 26-27 — Open Range (R) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 28 — Johnny English (PG) 7 p.m.
- Oct. 2 — Legally Blonde 2: Red, White And Blonde (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Giessen, Skyline

- Sept. 16-17 — Gigli (R) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 19 — 28 Days Later (R) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 20 — Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 21 — Sinbad: Legend Of The Seven Seas (PG) 3 p.m. Terminator 3: Rise Of The Machines (R) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 23-24 — S.W.A.T. (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 26 — Legally Blonde 2: Red, White And Blonde (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 27 — The League Of Extraordinary Gentlemen (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 28 — Johnny English (PG) 3 p.m. How To Deal (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 30 — Open Range (R) 7 p.m.
- Oct. 1 — Open Range (R) 7 p.m.

Hanau, Evening Star

- Sept. 16 — Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 17 — 28 Days Later (R) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 18 — Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 19 — Legally Blonde 2: Red, White And Blonde (PG-13) 7 p.m. The Order (R) 9:30 p.m.
- Sept. 20 — The Order (R) 7 p.m. Terminator 3: Rise Of The Machines (R) 9:30 p.m.
- Sept. 21 — Sinbad: Legend Of The Seven Seas (PG) 4 p.m. The Order (R) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 22 — Legally Blonde 2: Red, White And Blonde (PG-13) 7 p.m.



Johnny English (Rowan Atkinson) interrogates the archbishop of Canterbury (Oliver F. Davies) in the British Secret Service comedy, "Johnny English."

- Sept. 23 — Terminator 3: Rise Of The Machines (R) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 24 — Sinbad: Legend Of The Seven Seas (PG) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 25 — Terminator 3: Rise Of The Machines (R) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 26 — Matchstick Men (PG-13) 7 p.m. The League Of Extraordinary Gentlemen (PG-13) 9:30 p.m.
- Sept. 27 — Matchstick Men (PG-13) 7 p.m. How To Deal (PG-13) 9:30 p.m.
- Sept. 28 — Johnny English (PG) 4 p.m. Matchstick Men (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 29 — The League Of Extraordinary Gentlemen (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 30 — How To Deal (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Oct. 1 — Johnny English (PG) 7 p.m.
- Oct. 2 — The League Of Extraordinary Gentlemen (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Rhein Main, Gardens

- Sept. 17 — Jeepers Creepers 2 (R) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 19 — Open Range (R) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 20 — Sinbad: Legend Of The Seven Seas (PG) 2 p.m. Legally Blonde 2: Red, White And Blonde (PG-13) 5 p.m. Terminator 3: Rise Of The Machines (R) 7:30 p.m.
- Sept. 21 — 2 Fast 2 Furious (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 24 — The Order (R) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 26 — The League Of Extraordinary Gentlemen (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 27 — Johnny English (PG) 5 p.m. Marci X (R) 7:30 p.m.
- Sept. 28 — How To Deal (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Oct. 1 — Matchstick Men (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Wackernheim, McCully

- Sept. 17 — Marci X (R) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 24 — Jeepers Creepers 2 (R) 7 p.m.
- Oct. 1 — The Order (R) 7 p.m.

Wiesbaden, Flyers

- Sept. 18 — Jeepers Creepers 2 (R) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 19 — Legally Blonde 2: Red, White And Blonde (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 20 — Terminator 3: Rise Of The Machines (R) 7 p.m.

- Sept. 25 — The Order (R) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 26 — The League Of Extraordinary Gentlemen (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 27 — Johnny English (PG) 7 p.m.
- Oct. 2 — Matchstick Men (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Wiesbaden, Taunus

- Sept. 16 — 28 Days Later (R) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 17 — Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 18 — Alex And Emma (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 19 — Jeepers Creepers 2 (R) 7 p.m. Terminator 3: Rise Of The Machines (R) 9:30 p.m.
- Sept. 20 — Sinbad: Legend Of The Seven Seas (PG) 4 p.m. Legally Blonde: Red, White And Blonde (PG-13) 7 p.m. Jeepers Creepers 2 (R) 9:30 p.m.
- Sept. 21 — Sinbad: Legend Of The Seven Seas (PG) 4 p.m. Jeepers Creepers 2 (R) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 22 — Terminator 3: Rise Of The Machines (R) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 23 — Sinbad: Legend Of The Seven Seas (PG) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 24 — Legally Blonde: Red, White And Blonde (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 25 — Terminator 3: Rise Of The Machines (R) 7 p.m.
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- Sept. 29 — The League Of Extraordinary Gentlemen (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Sept. 30 — How To Deal (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Oct. 1 — The League Of Extraordinary Gentlemen (PG-13) 7 p.m.
- Oct. 2 — How To Deal (PG-13) 7 p.m.

Movie plots

The Order (R)— After a series of unexplained murders, a renegade priest (Heath Ledger) begins an investigation that hurls him into a maelstrom of unimaginable evil. The priest's search takes him to the Sin Eater — a key figure in a mysterious and ancient church order. The immortal Sin Eater's role is nothing less than playing God by absolving the unforgivable of their sins, allowing great evil to go unpunished. As the young priest delves ever deeper he fights to save his soul and that of the woman he loves.

Johnny English (PG) — Rowan Atkinson, famous throughout the world in his guise as Mr. Bean, tackles the British Secret Service in this comedy about a dastardly plan to steal the realm's Crown Jewels.

How To Deal (PG-13)— The people closest to 17-year-old Halley Martin (Mandy Moore) are in the midst of major upheavals in their love lives. Her mother, Lydia (Allison Janney), is embittered by her recent divorce. Her sister, Ashley (Mary Catherine Garrison), is marrying a guy with whom she is constantly fighting. Her best friend, Scarlett (Alexandra Holden), can't keep her hands off of her boyfriend, and her father, Len (Peter Gallagher), combats his midlife crisis by eloping. Halley isn't about to let herself succumb to the love bug — until she starts falling for Macon Forrester (Trent Ford), the one guy who challenges her idea that love just complicates a perfectly good friendship.

The League Of Extraordinary Gentlemen (PG-13) — The league members are staunch individualists with checkered pasts. Now they must learn to trust each other and work as a team for the very survival of civilization. With little preparation and no time to lose, they will be transported via Captain Nemo's submarine, the Nautilus, to Venice, Italy. There, a masked madman known as the Fantom plans to sabotage a conference of world leaders by setting off a chain of explosions, sinking the entire city. The league has nine hours to save the world. Stars Sean Connery and Shane West.

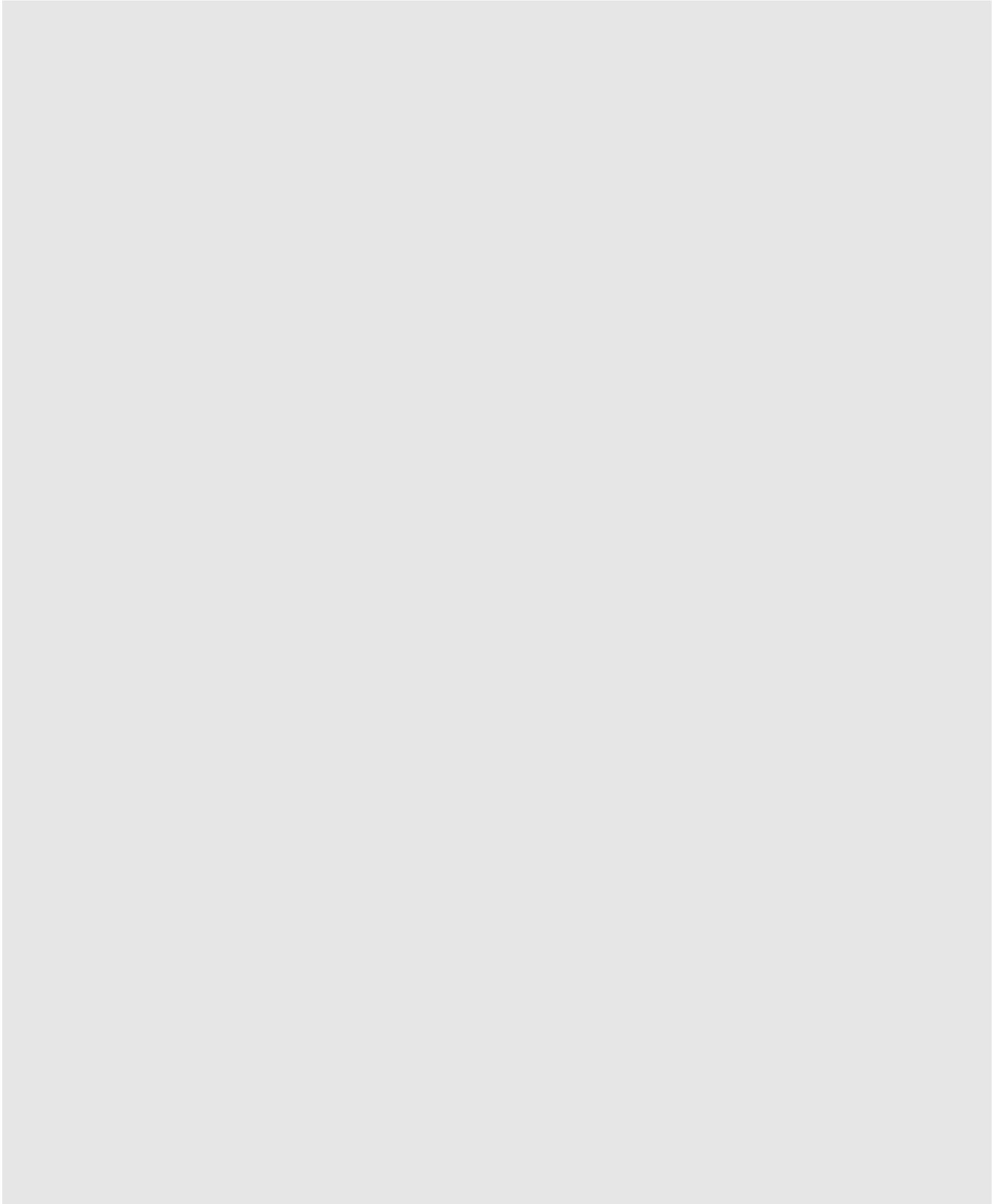
S.W.A.T. (PG-13)— Jim Street (Colin Farrell) gets the chance to redeem his career as a Special Weapons And Tactics cop when he rejoins the team to track down drug kingpin Alex Montel (Olivier Martinez). Also stars Samuel L. Jackson and LL Cool J.

Open Range (R) — Kevin Costner stars and directs this tale of men who escape their past lives by herding cattle in the disappearing Wild West, where nature is the law. One frontier town that rules through fear and tyranny forces them to act. Also stars Robert Duvall, Diego Luna and Abraham Benrubi.

Terminator 3: Rise Of The Machines — A decade has passed since John Connor (Nick Stahl) helped prevent Judgment Day and save mankind from mass destruction. Now 25, Connor lives "off the grid" — no home, no credit cards, no cell phone and no job. Until out of the shadows of the future steps the T-X (Kristanna Loken), a sophisticated cyborg killing machine. Connor's only hope for survival is the Terminator (Arnold Schwarzenegger), his mysterious former assassin.

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



Sports and leisure

Take a hike

By Donald Seltzer
Special to the Herald Union

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



Weekend of Sept. 20-21

Horn — This walk is in the scenic Hunsrück region northwest of Bingen. From points east connect with Autobahns 60 and 61, then exit at Laudert to follow an unnumbered road through Laudert, Maisborn and Bubach to Horn. From Idar-Oberstein take B-41 toward Bad Kreuznach, B-421 through Kirchberg to Kastellaun, and an unnumbered road through Laubach to Horn.

Start: Gemeindehaus **Saturday:** 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. (5 and 10 km) and 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (20 km) **Sunday:** 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. (5 and 10 km) and 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. (20 km) **Trail:** Fairly hilly, woods **Award:** Model truck.

Münster — This scenic walk east of Limburg offers winding trails through the Naturpark Hochtaunus as well as a cycling route. Use Autobahn 3 toward Limburg, exiting in the direction of Bad Camberg. Pick up B-8, head north to Limburg and turn off at Oberbrechen to follow unnumbered roads to Weyer and Münster.

Start: Mehrzweckhalle **Saturday:** 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. (5 and 10 km, plus cycling) and 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. (20 km) **Sunday:** 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. (5, 10 and 20 km, plus cycling) **Trail:** Fairly hilly, woods **Award:** Ceramic lighted village hall.

Rockenhausen — This walk is midway between Bad Kreuznach and Kaiserslautern and west of Worms — a little out of the way for 104th ASG wanderers but a possibility to consider. From points west connect with Autobahn 63 and exit at Kirchheimbolanden, then follow a minor road (L-386) and IVV directional signs to Rockenhausen.

Start: Donnersberghalle **Saturday and Sunday:** 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. (5 and 10 km) and 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. (20 km) **Trail:** Somewhat hilly, fields and woods **Award:** From previous events.

Rommerz — Volksmarching interest remains high in the area around Fulda with its scenic countryside. From the Frankfurt area take Autobahn 66 to the Dreieck Fulda/Eichenzell, then B-40 to the Neuhof exit and an unnumbered road to Rommerz.

Start: Saal Imhof **Saturday:** 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. (5 and 10 km) and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. (20 km) **Sunday:** 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. (5, 10 and 20 km) **Trail:** Fairly hilly, woods **Award:** Teapot-shaped Windlicht.

Weekend of Sept. 27-28

Berschweiler bei Kirn — Another event for readers in the western part of the 104th ASG is northeast of Idar-Oberstein. Head toward Bad Kreuznach on B-41 and, after roughly 10 kilometers, connect with an unnumbered road leading to Niederwörresbach. After a very short distance turn off on another road at Fischbach that leads to Berschweiler.

Start: Gasthaus Schmidhöfer **Saturday:** 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 4-5 p.m. (5 and 10 km) and 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. (20 km) **Sunday:** 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. (5 and 10 km) and 7-11 a.m. (20 km) **Trail:** Hilly, woods and fields **Award:** Garden dwarf with thermometer.

Reinheim-Zeilhard — This new event takes place on the edge of the scenic Odenwald southeast of Darmstadt. Far too many clubs have fallen by the wayside during the past 10 years, so make an effort to support this new one with your participation. From Darmstadt follow B-26 toward Dieburg, take the Reinheim exit and B-38 to the Georgenhausen exit and an unnumbered road to Zeilhard.

Start: Turnhalle **Saturday:** Noon to 5 p.m. (5, 10 and 20 km) **Sunday:** 6 a.m. to 1 p.m. (5, 10 and 20 km) **Trail:** Hilly, woods and fields **Award:** From previous events.

Midweek, Oct. 1-3

Mainz-Gonsenheim — This midweek walk north of Mainz is easy to reach, but its starting time is not quite late enough for local readers without an early departure from work. Use Autobahns 60 or 643 and take the Mainz-Gonsenheim exit. Follow IVV tape and signs to the start.

Start: Karl-Geib-Haus at Kapellenstrasse 44 **Wednesday:** 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (5 km) and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (10 km) **Trail:** Mostly flat, woods and fields, friendly to jogger-type strollers **Award:** From previous events.

Wiesbaden-Gräselberg — Wanderers in Mainz and Wiesbaden will enjoy this nearby event. Thursday's walk benefits the fight against muscular dystrophy. From Schiersteiner Kreuz (Autobahns 66 and 643) drive north toward Wiesbaden, exit at Wiesbaden-Dotzheim and turn right onto Erich-Ollenhauer-Strasse. Watch for IVV directional signs leading to the start on Wörthersee Strasse.

Start: Sportgelände des SC Gräselberg **Thursday:** 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. (5 and 10 km) and 10 a.m. to noon (20 km) **Friday:** 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. (5 and 10 km) and 8 a.m. to noon (20 km) **Trail:** Hilly, mostly residential areas, some woods **Award:** Special stamp and certificate on Thursday; beer mug on Friday.

Weekend of Oct. 4-5

Fulda — Three days of walking takes place this weekend near the former American casern. A wide variety of routes are being offered as well as International Marching League credit, which requires two days of walking. Drivers will find the start off of B-254 heading toward Haimbach. Watch for IVV directional signs.

Start: Deutsch-Amerikanisches Sportzentrum **Friday:** 4-5 p.m. (6 and 10 km) **Saturday:** 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. (6 and 10 km), 7:30-10 a.m. (25 km) and 7:30-8 a.m. (42 km; bus transfer to start from 7-7:30 a.m.) **Sunday:** 7:30 a.m. to noon (6 and 10 km), 7:30-10 a.m. (25 km) and 7:30-8:30 a.m. (42 km) **Trail:** Fairly hilly, woods and fields **Award:** From previous events (6, 10 and 25 km), patch and certificate (42 km) or medal (two-day event participation).

Gelnhausen-Hailer — Volksmarchers in Büdingen and Gelnhausen will have but a few kilometers to travel to enjoy this walk in the nearby town of Hailer. Saturday morning participants can also visit the Wächtersbach ceramic factory store, a short drive up the road to the northeast. Take the Gelnhausen-West exit from Autobahn 66 to reach the start. From Büdingen follow B-457 toward Gelnhausen and follow IVV signs to the start.

Start: Sport- und Kulturhalle **Saturday:** 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. (5 and 10 km) and 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. (20 km) **Sunday:** 8 a.m. to noon (5, 10 and 20 km) **Trail:** Fairly hilly, woods and fields **Award:** Porsche Boxster model car.

Staudernheim — Readers in Idar-Oberstein are closest to this event and need only head down B-41 to participate. Head to Sobernheim and pick up an unnumbered road to the start at Staudernheim.

Start: Turnhalle VfL **Saturday and Sunday:** 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. (5, 10 and 20 km) **Trail:** Hilly, fields and woods **Award:** From previous events.

Weekend of Oct. 11-12

Allenbach — This event is just up the road from Idar-Oberstein and Neubrückle. From the latter head north on B-269 and connect with B-422 for a short drive to Allenbach. From Idar-Oberstein take B-422 north to Allenbach. From Baumholder follow Autobahn 62 (at the Freisen on-ramp) to Neubrückle, then head north on B-269 to B-422 and Allenbach.

Start: Gemeindehaus **Saturday and Sunday:** 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. (5 and 10 km) and 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. (20 km) **Trail:** Hilly, mostly woods **Award:** Onyx rhino.

Wiesbaden-Klarenthal — The changing fall colors will make the wooded trails at this event especially pretty for wanderers. Young families should be aware that last year's trail briefly followed the shoulder of a main road. Use Autobahns 66 and 643 to reach Wiesbaden and, staying in the left lane, pick up the 2nd Ring toward Klarenthal. Turn left onto Klarenthaler Strasse and shortly thereafter left again. Watch for IVV signs.

Start: Geschwister-Scholl-Grundschule **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:** From previous events.

Weekend of Oct. 18-19

Arbergen-Panrod — This event is in the Naturpark Rheingau-Taunus south of Limburg and is known for its porcelain plate awards depicting German automobiles. This year, however, the club commemorates its 75th year with a special cloth patch. Follow Autobahn 3 toward Limburg and exit at Bad Camberg. Follow unnumbered roads through Beuerbach and Kettenschwalbach to reach Panrod.

Start: Palmbach Halle **Saturday and Sunday:** 7:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. (6 km), 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. (11 km), 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. (21 km) and 7:30-8:30 a.m. (42 km) **Trail:** Very hilly, woods **Award:** Patch (shorter trails) or patch and certificate (marathon).

Morbach — This event is especially convenient for readers in Idar-Oberstein and Baumholder. Morbach is northeast of Idar-Oberstein, on B-327 just north of the junction with B-269. Drivers should use B-422 to reach B-269. From Neubrückle and Baumholder connect with B-41/269 to head north on B-269 to the start.

Start: Baldenauhalle **Saturday and Sunday:** 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. (6 and 10 km) and 7:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. (20 km) **Trail:** Hilly, woods **Award:** IVV credit only.

Weekend of Oct. 25-26

Koblenz-Karthause — The variety of distances offered should satisfy both the casual wanderer and serious volksmarcher. This is a new start location for the Schnelle Füße Koblenz club. Drivers have a choice of Autobahns — A-3 and A-48 to Limburg and Koblenz or A-60 and A-61 via Mainz, Bingen and Koblenz. From A-48 use the Montabaur exit, B-49 toward Koblenz and the Karthause exit. From A-61 use the Koblenz-Waldesch exit, B-327 to Koblenz and exit at Karthause. IVV signs will be posted at Autobahn exits — watch for them as Karthause does not appear on most maps.

Start: Sporthalle **Saturday and Sunday:** 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. (5, 10 and 20 km), 7-9 a.m. (42 km) and 7-8 a.m. (50 km) **Trail:** Fairly hilly, fields and woods **Award:** Doll (5, 10 and 20 km) or patch and certificate (42 and 50 km).

Questions? Send email to volksmarch@hotmail.com.



Things to do

Giessen Movie Day

Giessen Army Community Service presents Movie Day for children age 5 and under every second and fourth Tuesday of the month. Call mil 324-3465 for showtime.

Ceramics classes

Learn the art of ceramics during classes at Friedberg Arts and Crafts (Building 3627 on Ray Barracks) Sept. 16, 23 and 30 from 10 a.m. to noon. Materials are included in the \$6 fee. Call civ (06031) 813 266.

Rod and Gun events

Heidelberg's Rod and Gun Club features a variety of special events in the coming weeks. Events include **hunting and fishing day** Sept. 20, **archery and pistol tournaments** Oct. 11 and a **trap and skeet competition** Oct. 18. Call civ (06202) 51193 for information.

'Dangerous Liaisons'

Frankfurt's English Theater presents the Christopher Hampton dramatic comedy "Les Liaisons Dangereuses" every evening except Monday starting Sept. 19.



Tickets are €19-29. The theater is located in the Gallileo Skyscraper at Kaiserstr. 34. Call civ (069) 2423 1620 for reservations.

Wine fest and more

Join Baumholder Outdoor Recreation for a bus trip to the Bad Dürkheim Winefest Sept. 20 for \$39 per person. Outdoor Rec also offers a trip to the Munich Oktoberfest Oct. 4. Cost is \$69 per person. Call mil 485-7182.

Live in concert

Christina Aguilera performs at Frankfurt's Festhalle Oct. 17 at 8 p.m. Other concerts at Frankfurt's Festhalle include **David Bowie** Oct. 18 at 7:30 p.m.,

Deep Purple Nov. 5 at 8 p.m., **Eros Ramazzotti** Nov. 23 at 8 p.m., **Justin Timberlake** Nov. 27 at 8 p.m. and **Marilyn Manson** Dec. 7. Pick up tickets at major ticket offices.

Festival galore

Now's the time to get out and enjoy one of Germany's many festivals. Upcoming events include the **Frankfurt Dippemess** through Sept. 22, the **Friedberg Herbstmarkt** Sept. 19-23, **Hanau Rochusmarkt** Sept. 26-27 and the **Gelnhausen Schelmenmarkt** Oct. 10-13.

Schools in session across 104th ASG

Enrollments mostly stable, students return to familiar focus

By David Ruderman
104th Area Support Group Public Affairs Office

The academic year got off to a smooth start Sept. 2 as students flocked to 18 Department of Defense Dependents Schools around the 104th Area Support Group. With few exceptions enrollments were roughly what they were a year ago, school administrators said.

"We're kind of right on target," said Barbara Mueller, Giessen Elementary School principal. "Last year we hovered around 330, and today we're at 325. Our enrollment has remained stable. We've had a very smooth start to the new school year."

"It went well," said Dr. Larry Sessions, Gen. H.H. Arnold High School principal in Wiesbaden. "We just had to redo a few schedules for students. The kids came back excited, high-spirited and ready to learn."

Happy surprises

"It was very good because we had more students than we were projected for," said Debbie Brooks, Wetzel Elementary School principal in Baumholder. "Our enrollment is 491, and we were projected for 457. I don't know if we'll have more students arriving." If Wetzel's enrollment rises to 500 by Sept. 30 the school will be assigned an assistant principal for next year, she said.

The higher than expected en-



Fifth-grade teacher Carolyn Little shares a light moment with Springfield Elementary School students on opening day. Elementary, middle and high school students returned to classrooms across the 104th ASG Sept. 2.

Photo by David Ruderman

rollment also meant that Brooks had to scramble for additional staff and reapportion some classes.

"I've just been given one teacher and a slot for a learning impaired teacher. We're still in the process of hiring." She had to reshuffle sixth-graders out of a mixed-grade class, but the outcome will bring down the pupil-to-teacher ratio for the resulting three classes to 22:1, she said.

Sessions also had a bit of scrambling to do to realign classes in the first week of the new year. "It's real close, but it's not the same ratio we were expecting," he said. "We have 25 fewer seniors and about 25 more freshmen than we thought. I think a lot of the

problem was that we had students who didn't register until the first day of school."

One school reporting a smaller enrollment than expected was Neubrück Elementary School. "Ours is actually down," said principal Wayne Dozark. "There are just no new families coming into our community. I'm not terribly surprised. We're at 184 [down around 50 from last year]. We checked all the PCS dates, and if no one comes in we'll be down to 137 by Christmas."

There is a very large silver lining in the cloud of low enrollment, said Dozark. "It's really interesting. The teachers are all saying

it's almost too good to be true. Class loads are a dream. Teachers are saying 'What I can get done is amazing.' We've got dynamite people, tons of programs both in school and after."

In good spirits

Students seemed to be in good spirits despite the fact that many have parents deployed to Iraq and elsewhere in the Middle East, said the principals.

"The kids are great," said Dozark. "They're excited to be back to school. It was long summer for them. I don't think I've had a kid absent so far. Parents are finally able to focus on themselves for a change. It is absolutely amazing. This is the most

wonderful place I've ever been. We've got good kids, plenty of room, supportive parents — it's like nirvana."

"We just hope it continues like that," said Sessions. "The kids don't talk about it too much. If you just looked at our kids casually you wouldn't know that their parents are downrange."

"The children's mood is good and the teachers' mood is too. Our kids remain in good spirits. They're troopers, they're hanging in there," said Mueller.

"Their friends are their best support," said Sessions.

Mueller said the school is sending its newsletter electronically to parents deployed to the Gulf. "We want to keep them in the loop, keep them part of the school and their kids' lives."

Mueller is considering what other actions the school can take in the course of the year to reinforce communication between the students and their parents, she said.

Daily routines, classroom learning and local concerns began to assert control over the schools as students and teachers got into the swing of things.

Wetzel dedicated a new, four-classroom facility Sept. 12 to house its full-time kindergarten program, a step that brought them into line with most other DoDDS schools.

In Giessen parents began to spend time in the classrooms to support the learning process.

"We really appreciate parent volunteers," said Mueller, "their being so loyal and faithful, coming into the school and helping our students."

School bits

Tricare for college students

College age students leaving Europe to study in the United States can continue their Tricare coverage at their new location, but must take steps to transfer their coverage. Children are eligible for continued coverage up to age 21 or, if a full-time student, until age 23. The first step is updating Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System information through a local personnel services office. Students may retain their Tricare Europe coverage for up to 60 days after departing Europe. If the student is a Tricare Standard beneficiary and wishes to continue that coverage in the United States, no action need be taken after updating DEERS information. If a student is a Tricare Prime beneficiary in Europe, he or she may continue that coverage only in areas in the United States where it is available. Parents should determine what coverage is best for their student and make arrangements in advance. For information and assistance contact a Tricare Service Center representative at your local military treatment facility or go to www.tricare.osd.mil.

Family reading at Argonner

Argonner Elementary School will hold a Family Reading Night Sept. 25 designed to help parents improve their children's reading and comprehension skills through reading at home. The event kicks off with a spaghetti dinner at 5 p.m. and continues with sessions at 6 p.m. Free babysitting will be provided. For details call Hillary Gillett or Carolyn James at civ (06181) 88-8819 or mil 322-8819.

Photos in Gelnhausen

Gelnhausen Elementary School photos will be taken Sept. 24. Call civ (06051) 13011 for details.

School jobs open

Butzbach Elementary School seeks to hire an office clerk/lunch monitor, educational aide and substitute teacher. Call civ (06033) 74520. Giessen Elementary School seeks to hire a kindergarten educational aide and a supply technician. Call mil 343-7248.

Friendship Picnic set

High school students in the 104th Area Support Group are invited to enjoy the annual Friendship Picnic for American and German students to be held Sept. 21 from 11

a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Siegelbach Zoo. The event is organized by the German-American International Women's Club and will feature a free barbecue, a zoo rally and quiz, and lots of socializing. For details email Helga Baecker at helga.bac@t-online.de.

Early closure in Wiesbaden

Students at Aukamm Elementary, Hainerberg Elementary, Wiesbaden American Middle School and Gen. H. H. Arnold High School will be dismissed at 1:30 p.m. Sept. 26 in order for teachers to receive required anti-terrorism training.

Sportfield seeks volunteers

Parent volunteers are sought at Sportfield Elementary School to assist teachers and students. See Ms. Duck in the school office or call mil 322-8600, civ (06181) 88-8600 for information.

SAT filing deadlines

College bound students who wish to take the Scholastic Aptitude Test Nov. 1 must have their application received by Sept. 26. The registration deadline for the Dec. 6 test date is Oct. 30. Contact your high school guidance counselor for information and register online at www.collegeboard.com.

Sports and leisure



Photos by Jim McDonald

Preview of things to come at Frankfurt Car Show

Visitors to Frankfurt's 60th International Motor Show, Passenger Cars, are getting a chance to look at the latest innovations in automobile building, historical highlights and other aspects of the industry. The fair, featured at the Frankfurt Messe fairgrounds, not far from the Frankfurt Hauptbahnhof (main train station) is a showcase of the

latest vehicles to be unveiled, vintage cars and information about jobs within the automobile and metal working industries. This year's show, which comprises over 1,000 exhibitors from some 39 countries, features exhibits on milestones in Formula One racing history, vintage wheels and model cars. Photos above: visitors examine Smart and Mercedes vehicles

on display. The show, which runs through Sept. 21, is open to the public from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. weekdays and from 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. weekends. Entrance is €13 weekdays or €15 on the weekend. To get to there by public transportation hop on the S-3, -4, -5 or -6 and get off at the Festhalle/Messe station. For more information browse to www.iaa.de.

Sports shorts ... Sports shorts

Health Fair

The Team 221st Sports and Fitness Office hosts a Health Fair Sept. 18 from noon to 4 p.m. and a Fiestation Aerobathon Sept. 20 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The free events at the Tony Bass Fitness Center will feature blood pressure and cholesterol checks, fitness demos and more. Call mil 337-5541 for details.

Basketball action

A Hispanic Heritage Month three-on-three basketball tournament will be held Sept. 20 at 10 a.m.

at Hanau's Pioneer Fitness Center. Registration is \$75 per team. Call mil 322-8197 for details.

Frankfurt Marathon

Runners and inline skaters can start planning now to compete in the Frankfurt Marathon Oct. 26. This year's event will also feature a relay marathon for runners covering distances of 12 kilometers, five K, 15 K and 10 K and children's races. For information and registration forms visit the Frankfurt Marathon website at www.frankfurt-marathon.com.

Registration is \$75 per team. Call mil 322-8197 for details.

Boxing Invitational

The Friedberg Fitness Center hosts a Hispanic Heritage Month Boxing Invitational Oct. 4. Registration is free. Spectators 13 and over pay \$3. The event starts at 7 p.m. Call mil 324-3155 for details.

Wrestling Invitational

Wiesbaden's Tony Bass Fitness Center hosts the 221st Base Support Battalion Wrestling Invitational Oct. 18. Registration is from 8-9:30 a.m. Entry is \$20. Call mil 337-5541.

Schiffenberg run

Giessen's Schiffenberg Castle will be the backdrop for a five-kilometer run and three-kilometer walk Oct. 25 starting at 11 a.m. Registration starts at 9:30 a.m. Cost is \$15 with a commemorative T-shirt or \$10 without one. Call mil 343-7201 for details.

Cosmos at home

The Frankfurt Cosmos lacrosse teams host teams from Aachen and Köln Oct. 18 at the Sportclub 1880 in Frankfurt (behind AFN Headquarters). The day will feature the home debut of the Cosmos women's team. For more information about the Cosmos point your browser to www.frankfurt-cosmos.de.

Things to do

Ski Club trips

The Frankfurt International Ski Club invites everyone to join them for a host of trips throughout Europe. Upcoming trips include **Sölden** Oct. 10-13, **Kaprun** Oct. 24-26, **Stubai** Nov. 7-10, **Hochgurgl** Nov. 21-23, **Saas Fee** Nov. 26-30, **Verbier** Dec. 5-7, **Hintertux** Dec. 12-14, **Vald'Isere** Dec. 14-21 and **St. Moritz** Dec. 14-20. For more information about the club and more upcoming trips visit their website at www.fiscweb.org.

Film Museum

Frankfurt's German Film Museum presents a special exhibition about and films by Japanese movie director Akira Kurosawa Oct. 1 through Jan. 4. The museum is located on the Sachsenhausen bank of the Main River in "museum row" on the Schaumainkai by the Architecture and Communication museums.

Atterberry concert

The Atterberry Chapel Multicultural Christian Church hosts a benefit gospel concert Sept. 20 at 7 p.m. at the Musikübungszenrum on Frankfurt Bockenheimer's Rödelheimer Landstr. 34-38. The concert will

feature soloists Ingrid Arthur, Richard Washington and Dorothy Wilson and the Friends of the Gospel Express. Tickets are €20 in advance or €25 at the door. For more information call Pastor Wilson at civ (06152) 188 880 or Sister Caldwell at civ (0162) 545 3057.

German-American concert



The Frankfurt German-American Choir presents a concert titled "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" Oct. 11 at 8 p.m. at the Frauenfriedenskirche in Frankfurt Bockenheim. Tickets are €12 and are available at www.ticketonline.de or at the door.

International happenings

The Internationales Theater Frankfurt features an English-language comedy about married life, "French Toast," Sept. 26-28. The theater, along with the Frankfurt Amerika Haus presents the **Markus Fleischer Quartet featuring Adam Nussbaum** Sept. 30 at 8 p.m. The Internationales Theater is on the east side of Frankfurt, Hanauer Landstr. 5-7. Call civ (069) 499 0980 for tickets and directions.



Photo by David Ruderman

High school football action

Hanau Panthers practice tackling and blocking in anticipation of the new season. The Hanau, Wiesbaden, Giessen and Baumholder teams were slated to open their seasons with games against Naples, Lakenheath, Ansbach and Bamberg respectively Sept. 13.