



Photo by Pfc. Charles D. Meseke, CTF-82 PAO

## Check it out...

*Chief Warrant Officer 5 Craig C. Winters, Apache helicopter pilot, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 229<sup>th</sup> Aviation Regiment, gives Lithuanian President Rolandas Paksas a hands-on tour of an Apache cockpit. Paksas visited Bagram Air Base Saturday to show his support for the Lithuanian forces working with Coalition Task Force-82.*

## English/Italian language classes offered to improve relations

By Pfc. Christina Carde  
11<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs Detachment

**BAGRAM, Afghanistan** — Due to the integration of coalition forces in Bagram, communication can be difficult. Something as simple as asking for directions or as important as a combat mission can quickly turn into a complicated process when troops can't talk to each other.

Maj. Michael Turley, air mobility liaison officer, Combined Joint Task Force-180, has put his diverse language skills to use, developing a way to breach the communication barrier between two of the largest military forces deployed here.

"Next to the American forces, the Italians are the largest force here with over 1,000

troops in Bagram," said Turley. "Because of all of the interaction we have with each other, it is important that we know how to communicate."

To help the Americans and Italians communicate better, Turley instituted language classes.

"I am fluent and certified in Italian as well as French," said Turley. "I figured since I have the skill, I should use it to help troops interact, which will in turn help the flow of military operations."

The classes are three times a week and consist of an hour of English and an hour of Italian.

"We teach American troops a conversa-

## DCU shortage effects Afghan-bound troops

By Pfc. Christina Carde  
11<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs Detachment

**BAGRAM, Afghanistan** — As the number of troops deploying all over the world rapidly increases, so does the demand for uniforms.

Uniform manufacturers have not been able to meet that demand due to the vast number of units leaving the U.S., said Chief Warrant Officer 3 Todd Champagne, Bagram property book officer, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 264<sup>th</sup> Logistical Task Force, Fort Bragg, N.C.

The greatest area of concern for supply units has been a shortage in Desert Camouflage Uniforms. Because missions must still be carried out, troops have been deploying without them.

"The CONUS (continental U.S.) Replacement Center in Fort Benning (Ga.), was one of the first to run out of DCUs as well as Fort Stewart, (Ga.), and now Fort Bragg, (N.C.)," said Champagne. "As a result, many soldiers have had to deploy in Battle Dress Uniforms and berets."

Once a soldier deploys with BDUs, there is little chance they will be issued DCUs in country.

"The Department of the Army has stated once a soldier deploys in BDUs, they will remain in BDUs for the duration of their deployment," said Champagne. "Getting DCUs issued to them is always a possibility but highly unlikely."

Even though the supply units here have DCUs on hand, Champagne said they are reserved for another reason.

"We ordered 1,000 sets of DCUs in De-

# World News (Compiled from CNN.com)

## Iraq is playing 'willful charade'

**WASHINGTON** — President Bush accused Iraq of engaging in a “willful charade” with U.N. weapons inspectors by hiding weapons of mass destruction and he said if the world fails to confront that threat, it would leave free nations facing “unacceptable risks.”

“I believe (Iraqi President) Saddam Hussein is a threat to the American people. I believe he’s a threat to the neighborhood in which he lives,” Bush said, listing how Iraq has invaded neighboring countries and poisoned his own people.

In his prime-time news conference Thursday, Bush said disarming Iraq is the world’s problem because Saddam provides funding and safe haven for terrorists.

“The attacks of September the 11th, 2001, show what the enemies of America did with four airplanes. We will not wait to see what terrorists or terrorist states could do with weapons of mass destruction,” he said.

When asked about giving Saddam an ultimatum — a two or three day deadline to disarm, Bush said “we’re still in the final stages of diplomacy.”

The president noted that chief U.N. weapons inspector Hans Blix would report to the Security Council Friday on Iraqi disarmament efforts.

“The world needs him to answer a single question: Has the Iraqi regime fully and unconditionally disarmed as required by resolution 1441? Or has it not?” Bush said.

## Search for bin Laden tightens

**WASHINGTON** — An aggressive search for Osama bin Laden may be getting closer to capturing the fugitive al-Qaida leader in northwest Pakistan, U.S. and Pakistani officials said Thursday.

U.S. officials said the search for bin Laden has been narrowed to a few Pakistani provinces in the northwest including Waziristan, and tribal and frontier provinces north of it.

Reports by The Associated Press and ABC News that the search for bin Laden has narrowed to the southwestern Pakistani province of Baluchistan are wrong, officials said.

“He is not down there,” said a knowledgeable official. The official also said a report that bin Laden had used a local telephone in Baluchistan to call a family member, and thus allowed himself to be pinpointed “is incorrect.”

Also on Thursday, Pakistani President Gen. Pervez Musharraf told CNN that authorities have “evidence and information” indicating bin Laden is most likely alive.

“All that Pakistan can do, we are doing to the best of our ability,” Musharraf said.

Bin Laden is considered the most wanted man in the world for his role in the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

Intelligence and law enforcement officials are following up on numerous leads from the materials seized Saturday when al-Qaida operations chief Khalid Shaikh Mohammed was captured. A senior U.S. official says Mohammed has begun giving his interrogators “information that is of some use.”

Bush applauded the arrest of Mohammed in Pakistan in his remarks, “Khalid Shaikh Mohammed conceived and planned the hijackings and directed the actions of the hijackers. We believe his capture will further disrupt the terror network and their planning for additional attacks.”

Unlike Mohammed, who was captured in a home in an Islamabad suburb, bin Laden is likely in a more remote area, along with a contingent of bodyguards, Musharraf told CNN.

## New Israeli operation under way

**JERUSALEM** — Israeli tanks entered northern Gaza late Thursday and set up positions northeast of the Jabaliya refugee camp to monitor Qassam rockets being fired from the region, Israeli military sources said.

Palestinian security sources said as many as 50 Israeli tanks and military vehicles were seen in the area. There were no immediate reports of fresh fighting.

The Israel Defense Forces said the tank movement was an operational step to keep an eye on Qassam activity after three of the rockets were fired into Israel earlier in the



*Emergency workers help a Palestinian boy at a Gaza City hospital.*

day. Hamas claimed responsibility for the rocket attacks, which landed near the Israeli town of Sderot but did not injure anyone.

The Jabaliya refugee camp in northern Gaza was the site of an Israeli military offensive that began late Wednesday and led to bloody gun battles with Palestinians there. That raid left 11 Palestinians dead and wounded more than 100 others, Palestinian hospital officials said.

That offensive was launched after a Palestinian suicide bomber blew himself up on a bus in the northern Israeli port city of Haifa, killing 15 Israelis, though Israeli officials said it was part of an ongoing operation against terrorists and not a reprisal attack.

## Students charged with trying to poison classmate

**DENVER, Colo.** — Prosecutors filed charges against seven fifth graders accused of plotting to poison a classmate by putting pills, glue, lead and chalk in her drinks.

Five students were charged Wednesday with attempted second-degree assault and conspiracy, both felonies, district attorney’s office spokeswoman Lynn Kimbrough said.

Two others were charged with misdemeanor reckless endangerment, she said.

Three of the students were expelled, Denver Public Schools spokeswoman Tanya Spasev said.

The students, five girls and two boys, were suspended in January after an 11-year-old girl reported finding the items in her water bottle and soda over three days. The girl did not drink the beverages and did not become ill.

**CLASSES**, from Page 1

tional form of speaking Italian where they will be able to ask for directions or just say hello,” said Turley.

“Many of the Italians however, have a basic working knowledge of the English language. Their main course of instruction deals with acronyms and more combat-related topics so they can understand our briefings,” said Turley.

To help the troops practice speaking with each other, Turley arranges a weekly exercise.

“Once a week I will bring some American troops to the Italian compound for lunch so they can practice speaking to each other,” said Turley. “This environment is more relaxed than a classroom and it gives them a chance to not only share languages but different aspects of their cultures.”

Turley said by teaching the Americans and Italians how to speak each other’s language, he is not only breaking the language barrier but integrating two cultures.

“Americans have a habit of stereotyping Italian Americans due to movies and television series such as the ‘Sopranos,’” said Turley.

“Hopefully by bringing them together, I can show our troops the difference between what they see on TV and what is real,” he added.

Turley said he hopes to eliminate the communication barrier as much as possible during his time here.

“My goal is to have the Americans and Italians speaking to each other as if there never was a communication barrier.

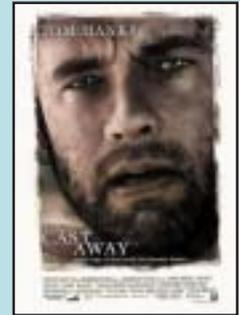
“This may not be why I was sent to Afghanistan, but I am very happy to have the opportunity of bringing two great cultures together,” said Turley

The English classes are from 0900Z to 1000Z Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays at the Coalition Task Force-82 administrative building with the Italian classes immediately following.

“I think English is one of the most important languages you can know,” said an Italian lieutenant with an interest in taking the class. “I am eager to begin learning how to speak better English and I know these classes will give me the opportunity.”

# Bagram Air Base MWR presents

1530Z at the MWR Building: “Cast Away.”  
A FedEx executive must transform himself physically and emotionally to survive a crash landing on a deserted island.



Tomorrow’s movie will be “Minority Report.”

## Local weather

### TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER FORECAST:

	<i>Today</i>	<i>Saturday</i>
<b>Bagram:</b>	<i>Mostly cloudy</i> H: 55F L: 28F	<i>Scattered showers</i> H: 55F L: 30F
<b>Kandahar:</b>	<i>Cloudy</i> H: 68F L: 34F	<i>Dust</i> H: 64F L: 44F
<b>Kabul:</b>	<i>Mostly cloudy</i> H: 55F L: 28F	<i>Scattered showers</i> H: 57F L: 30F
<b>Uzbekistan:</b>	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 56F L: 26F	<i>Isolated showers</i> H: 59F L: 33F

*Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team*

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Photo by Pfc. Debralee P. Crankshaw

## Bagram's urban renewal...

*A Slovakian drills an old storm-water tank to collapse it, making way for a new driveway for the Post Exchange.*

## DCU, from Page 1

ember for the sole purpose of direct exchange," said Champagne. "Soldiers that deployed here with DCUs most likely did not bring their BDUs as a substitute, so making sure they have serviceable uniforms is our first priority."

Although it has not happened yet, there is a chance the shortage can affect direct exchange in Bagram.

"The National Inventory Control Point in Philadelphia has over 40,000 DCUs ready for issue. However, this will only cover about a quarter of the troops presently deployed overseas," said Champagne. "We will continue to provide troops with what they need as far as direct exchange, but there is a good chance we will be experiencing a shortage soon as well."

The low quantity of DCUs will affect many soldiers, but is more likely to affect those of certain sizes.

"The average uniform and boot sizes, such as mediums, nines and tens, are always the first to run out because they are in highest demand," said Champagne. "A soldier who wears a size four boot, will have a better chance of receiving boots than someone who wears a larger, more common size."

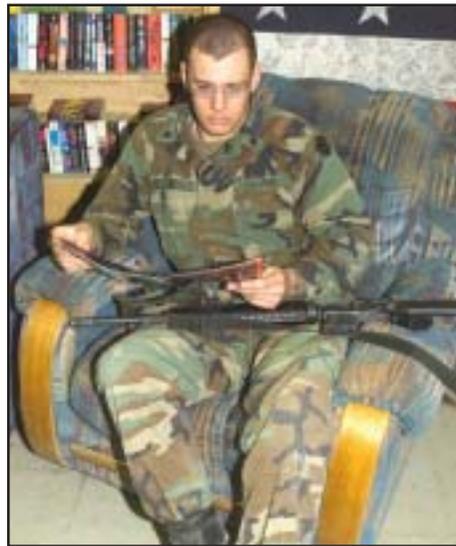


Photo by Pfc. Christina Carde

*Spc. Bryan Lee, medic, 948<sup>th</sup> Forward Surgical Team, Southfield Reserve Center, Detroit, Mich. reads a magazine in the 48<sup>th</sup> Combat Support Hospital's Morale Welfare and Recreation tent. Lee is one of many soldiers to deploy in Battle Dress Uniform.*

Even though this shortage is a huge problem, Champagne is confident the system will catch up.

"I am sure that manufacturers are working around the clock to fix this problem," he said. "I have faith that our supply system will catch up eventually, but with over 250,000 troops deployed — that's a lot of uniforms."

## Powell: We must stop Saddam before he arms terrorists

By Kathleen T. Rhem  
*American Forces Press Service*

**WASHINGTON** — Saddam Hussein is testing the United States, the U.N. Security Council and the international community, America's top diplomat said Thursday.

"Are we going to allow an individual such as Saddam Hussein to continue to develop these weapons of mass destruction or deceive us into believing that he isn't when we know he is?" Secretary of State Colin Powell asked members of Congress.

He said he'd carry the same message to the United Nations, where he met with representatives of other countries Thursday.

If Hussein chose today to give weapons of mass destruction to Osama bin Laden, no one could stop him, Powell said.

"We want to take away his option of doing so by disarming the Iraqi regime and Saddam Hussein," he said during a hearing of the Commerce, Justice, State and Judiciary Subcommittee of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

His comments came after a senator quoted bin Laden calling on all Muslims to obtain weapons of mass destruction, if possible, to kill Americans.

"Should there be any doubt in anyone's mind that if Osama bin Laden or other terrorists ... had access to chemical or biological or nuclear weapons they would use them — if there was any doubt in anyone's mind, that should have been erased on 9-11," Powell said.

This is why, he said, the United States made it clear to the U.N. Security Council "that we could no longer allow its resolutions to be ignored with respect to Iraq, a known developer of weapons of mass destruction."

The secretary warned that now is the time to go after "these rogue nations that proliferate, led by leaders who would strike us and who have shown in the past they will strike their own neighbors, strike their own people, do anything to stay in power to pursue their own agenda."



# Coalition Sports Zone

(Compiled from ESPN.com)



Jennifer Capriati has never been past the third round at Indian Wells.

## Capriati beats Mauresmo in opening

**INDIAN WELLS, Calif.** — Jennifer Capriati and Amelie Mauresmo easily won their opening matches Thursday in the Pacific Life Open.

Capriati, the No. 2 seed, won 6-4, 6-2 victory over Antonella Serra Zanetti of Italy. Mauresmo, the No. 5 seed, was a 6-4, 6-0 winner over Myriam Casanova of Switzerland. Then both pronounced themselves happy at their play overall in an event that neither has enjoyed much in the past.

Capriati has played here twice, losing to Chanda Rubin in the third round in 1996 and to Cara Black in the second round in 2000. Mauresmo made her only appearance in 2000 and was forced to retire from her second-round match against Kim Clijsters because of an injury.

“At the beginning there was a little bit of jitters because it had been a while since I’ve played here,” said Capriati, who evened her record for the year at 3-3. “I think I played all right. I played better as the match went on. I think I moved well and stepped up my game, so

overall I was happy with it.”

Mauresmo, who was slowed early in the year by a right knee problem, was playing her first match since retiring in the second set of a match against Monica Seles at Dubai.

## Pampling makes it look easy

**MIAMI** — The fairways on the Blue Monster at Doral are wider than 12 yards. The rough is not waist-high. There is plenty of sand and water, but nothing that remotely resembles pot bunkers or Barry’s Burn.

That’s good news for Rod Pampling, the first-round leader Thursday in the Ford Championship at Doral with eight birdies.

It was the first time the 33-year-old Aussie has held a first-round lead at a PGA Tour event since the 1999 British Open at Carnoustie.

What happened after that is now part of golf trivia: Pampling is the only player in the 142-year history of the British Open to lead after the first round and then miss the cut.

“Obviously, it wasn’t great,” Pampling said. “It really didn’t bother me because I knew I didn’t play bad, the conditions were just unbelievably tough.”

### Sports on local Armed Forces Network TV

#### Saturday’s schedule (AFN Sports)

- ❖ Boxing: Light Heavyweights (tape delayed) 0000Z
- ❖ NBA: Los Angeles Clippers @ Boston Celtics (tape delayed) 0300Z
- ❖ ESPNNews (tape delayed) 0700Z
- ❖ SportsCenter (live) 0800Z
- ❖ Totally NASCAR (tape delayed) 0900Z
- ❖ COLL BB: Cincinnati @ Marquette (live) 1030Z
- ❖ COLL BB: Texas @ Oklahoma (live) 1230Z
- ❖ COLL BB: Southern Conference Championship (live) 1500Z
- ❖ NHL: Colorado Avalanche @ Philadelphia Flyers (live) 1700Z

#### Sunday’s schedule (AFN Sports)

- ❖ NHL: Colorado Avalanche @ Philadelphia Flyers (tape delayed) 0100Z
- ❖ SportsCenter (live) 0400Z
- ❖ NHL 2Night (live) 0600Z
- ❖ SportsCenter (live) 0700Z
- ❖ COLL BB: Women’s CUSA Semifinals (tape delayed) 0800Z
- ❖ COLL BB: Wake Forest @ NC State (tape delayed) 1000Z
- ❖ PGA: Ford Championship at Doral: Third Round (tape delayed) 1300Z
- ❖ SportsCenter (live) 1600Z
- ❖ NBA Pregame (live) 1730Z
- ❖ NBA: Washington Wizards @ NY Knicks (live) 1800Z

**“Do you think the chief has a Napoleon complex?”**



kevin\_kilgore@hotmail.com

By Kevin Kilgore

*Laugh Support*

# Prison crossword

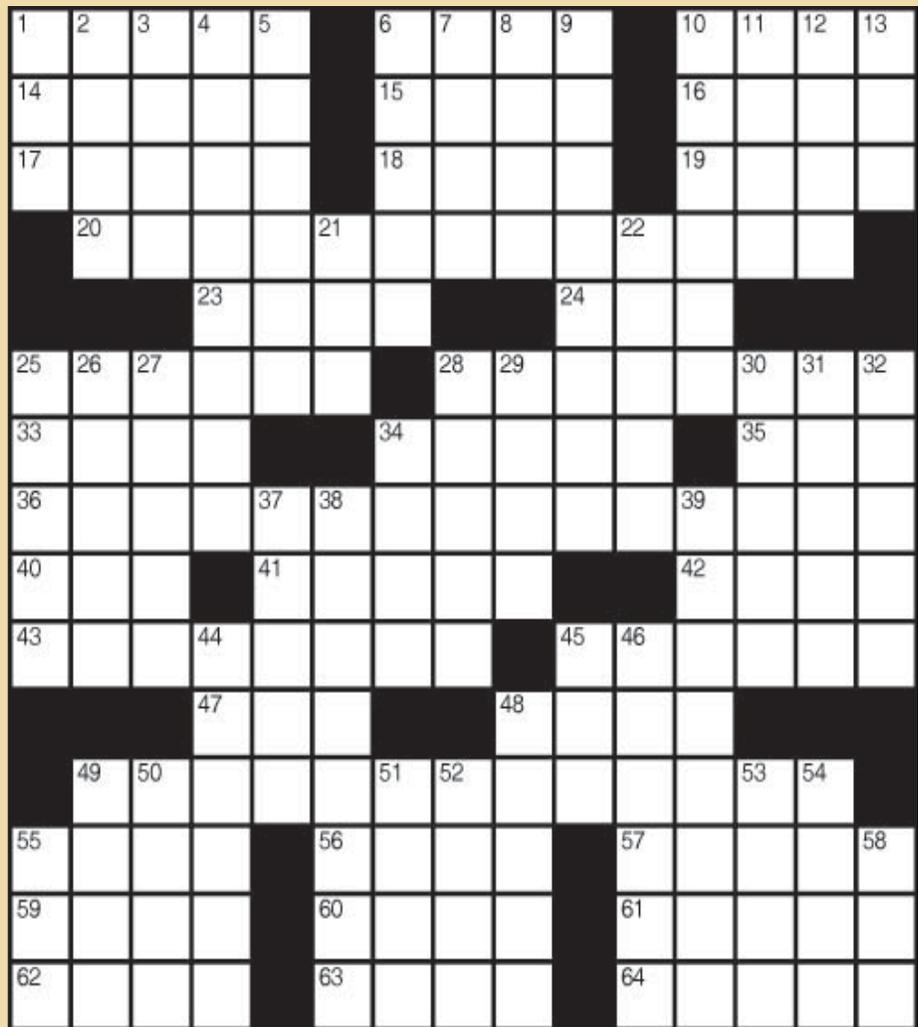
(Courtesy of QUIZLAND.com)

## Across

- 1 Knocked over
- 6 TV handyman Bob
- 10 Kennel cry
- 14 The rite place?
- 15 Hieroglyphics bird
- 16 Home to most Turks
- 17 Kama \_\_\_
- 18 Hoover et al.
- 19 Blue shade
- 20 Prison food?
- 23 Xenia's state
- 24 Paltry amount
- 25 Some patients' outlays
- 28 Arrays of numbers
- 33 Eggs order
- 34 Play the ponies
- 35 Tooth care org.
- 36 Prison food?
- 40 Prefix meaning "ear"
- 41 Made louder
- 42 Some House votes
- 43 Password requesters
- 45 Kind of tomato or bomb
- 47 Triage locales, briefly
- 48 Swedish import
- 49 Prison food?
- 55 Knee-slapper
- 56 Borodin prince
- 57 Heckles
- 59 St. Louis sight
- 60 "... in this \_\_\_ of tears."
- 61 Coastal recess
- 62 Toy dog, for short
- 63 \_\_\_'acte
- 64 Depot postings, informally

## Down

- 1 KLM rival
- 2 Jack Horner's find
- 3 "What's \_\_\_ you?"



- 4 Left side of a vessel
- 5 Of low quality
- 6 MTV airing
- 7 Construction beam
- 8 An arm or a leg
- 9 Gave aid to
- 10 You or I, to Fidel
- 11 Jacob's twin
- 12 Like most early television
- 13 Pony up
- 21 Frank McCourt memoir
- 22 "My bad!"
- 25 Pacific salmon
- 26 Football-shaped
- 27 Eva of Argentina
- 28 About half of us
- 29 Got mellow
- 30 Hoopster
- 31 Mystery writer's prize
- 32 Fresh-mouthed
- 34 Use a doormat
- 37 Wilkes-\_\_\_, Pa.
- 38 Tending to overlook
- 39 Wink, e.g.
- 44 Cut one's choppers
- 45 Wheels, so to speak
- 46 Scottish pudding
- 48 Not so risky
- 49 Reactor part
- 50 Take to the pawn shop
- 51 Big Apple cardinal
- 52 Nut's partner
- 53 Up to the task
- 54 Harmonica part
- 55 General Arnold
- 58 Peter, Paul and Mary: Abbr.

*Solutions will be posted in Saturday's Freedom Watch*