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Reunion and fair achieve success

by David Porreca

The first Berlin Family Reunion and Community Fair was held Sept. 6-8, and if the response of the organizers is any indication, there will be many more in the future.

"How does 'excellent' and 'fantastic' sound?" Capt. Anthony Bell, operations officer of the Community Life Branch, said in describing the outcome of the three-day event, which began with the Family Reunion at the Harnack House on Sept. 6 and 7, and ended with the Community Fair at Truman Plaza on Sept. 8.

The reunion was devoted to the discussion of six topics of community concern. Groups made up of invited members of the community addressed the concerns and developed action plans in response. The topics explored were drug and alcohol abuse, transition of new community members, improving community cohesion, distractions to the "good life" in Berlin, improving the community chain of command, and dealing with family member abuse and misconduct.

The specific proposals of each group are still in the process of being analyzed, according to Capt. Michael Ryan, chief of the Community Life Branch and overall planner of the reunion and fair. Once the analysis is complete, the Community Commander will review the suggestions, and the appropriate agencies will be given the tasks of carrying out the proposed corrections. The Berlin Observer will keep the community informed as each proposal from the reunion is implemented.

How did the reunion's participants respond to two days of often grueling work? "They left thinking something was going to be done about the issues raised," Ryan said. "From the perspective of the people involved, it was very worthwhile. In fact, I think they felt it was too brief, that two days weren't enough to address the issues ad-

equately. Most wanted three days."

"I enjoyed it," agreed Lt. Col. David Leedy, who served as leader of the action group devoted to distractions to the "good life" in Berlin. "Our group exerted a great deal of energy discussing housing, the commissary, the duty train, the child care center, and Army Community Services, among other things. It was certainly a valuable experience."

Just as valuable, according to organizers, was the Community Fair, in which 47 private associations and community support activities took part. The purpose of the fair was to acquaint members of the community with the wide array of activities, groups, and services available to them. The only complaint organizers had was about the chilly weather and overcast clouds, but even that didn't prevent the fair from being a success.

"We had a very fine turnout despite the uncertainty of the weather," Bell said. "I would call it a complete success. The membership drives met with a good response, and fundraising sales went better than expected."

Ryan went even further in expressing his satisfaction. "I think we had divine intervention," he said. "The sky clouded up and became threatening, but it held off. Overall, I felt really good about the fair. We had several thousand people go in and out of it during the day. People learned a lot about the community and, in addition, it was an excuse for them to interact with their neighbors and friends. I saw a lot of people walk out with smiles on their faces. It made me feel good."

Group members who manned the fair booths shared Ryan's enthusiasm. "People really enjoyed this," said Robert LeMere, who was in charge of the TCA Model Train Club booth. "They didn't know we had a model train club at TCA. We picked up quite a few new mem-



An accordion player entertains the crowd at the Community Fair.

bers."

"Early in the afternoon, before it got so cold, we did a very big business," said Inge Schwanke, who, along with Gabi Coenders, ran the foreign language booth. "We got lots of enrollments for the Gateway programs. We were very pleased with the response."

Complaints about the weather were common, but some groups benefited from the cold. "The weather's not good, but it sure is fine sweater-selling weather," said Lt. Col. Bernie Griffard, who headed the Association of the United States Army booth, which luckily sold sweaters as its main fundraiser.

With the success of this year's event still fresh in their minds, organizers are already eagerly anticipating next year's reunion and fair. "We want to improve our timing so that we can have better weather," Bell said. "We'd like to have it a week earlier to insure that it's still warm. We also want more organizations to become involved. We want next year's reunion and fair to be even better than this year's."

Heat is on the way

Are you cold when you wake up in the morning in your barracks room or military housing unit? Cheer up—heat should soon be on the way, according to Michael B. White, deputy director of the Directorate of Engineering and Housing.

DEH will turn on the heat, says White, when the temperature falls to 55 degrees Fahrenheit for three consecutive nights. The official readings are taken at 9 p.m. by the German Weather Service.

According to White, there have been two such nights and forecasters were expecting a third Thursday. If that happens, the heat will be on for today.

A few areas, however, will still not have heat because of technical problems. Those areas include BB housing area and McNair Barracks.



photo by Mike Warren

If April Jarry ever gets lost, her fingerprints may help her parents find her. Child fingerprinting was one of

the services at the Community Fair.

opinion

Observations

Letter from Brig. Gen. Griffin

What is your opinion of the first annual community fair?



SSgt. Michael Watson, 1946th Communications Squadron.

"This is a good idea. Until today, I wasn't aware of all the extensive activities available to the community."



Kay Johnson, family member

"It's been fine. I didn't know there were so many clubs. There's lots of stuff for the kids, so I'm pleased."



PFC John Ivey, CSC, 6-502nd

"I've enjoyed it. It's my first chance to see all the types of activities that I can be involved in here."



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, BERLIN BRIGADE
APO NEW YORK 09742

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

Last week's Berlin Family Reunion and Community Fair marked a significant milestone for our community. By coming together and discussing the concerns and challenges facing our families, we began the process that will result in a better community for all of us.

A great deal of hard work on the part of many individuals and private associations was the essential ingredient that made it all work. I see an already concerned and dedicated community growing even closer.

As Community Commander, I assure you that my staff and I are dedicated to solving the problems facing families in the Berlin community. And though I can't promise we can solve every problem, everything that came up during the Reunion will be reviewed. Where we can take action, we will and when action has been taken the community will be informed.

Those persons who participated in the Family Reunion and the private organizations that took part in the Community Fair are listed below. Their hard work, concern and dedication reflect a community that honestly cares about its members. Thank you.

Thomas N. Griffin Jr.
THOMAS N. GRIFFIN JR.
Brigadier General, USA
Deputy Commander

Organizations in Community Fair

Reunion participants

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|--|---|
| 1. Child Development Service | 14. Family Service (USAF) | 30. ACS Volunteers |
| 2. Children Center Association | 15. VFW | 31. Atari and Commodore 64 (2 Booths) |
| 3. Library (Booth) | 16. American Catholic Military Community | 32. TCA Model Train Club |
| 4. Dancing Bears | 17. Order of Eastern Star | 33. Berlin Counseling Center |
| 5. Provost Marshal | 18. TOPS GE 123 | 34. Rod and Gun Club (Booth) |
| 6. MSAD | 19. TAR PTSA | 35. AUSA |
| a. Physical Activities | 20. BAHS PTSA | 36. TCA Officers' Wives/Silver Wings Club |
| b. Golf (Booth) | 21. Road Runners | 37. American Art Guild/German-American Wives Club |
| c. Performing Arts | 22. INSCOMBA | 38. Reserve Officers' Association |
| 7. Social Activities | 23. Club System (Booth) | 39. TOPS GE 161 |
| 8. Republicans Abroad | 24. FSB Wives Club | 40. American Womens' Club |
| 9. Scuba Club | 25. Chaplain | 41. German American Auto |
| 10. Bear-A-Cudas | 26. CPD | 42. Le Leche |
| 11. ACS Information (Booth) | 27. Arts and Crafts | 43. G-3 Education (Booth) |
| 12. ARC Booth | 28. India Association (2 Booths) | 44. DEH |
| 13. Berlin Women's Network | 28. International Wives Club | |

- | | | | |
|------------------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Mr. Cobb | Mrs. Kralle | SFC Kellerman | SSgt. Snipes |
| Mrs. Cobb | Sgt. Widemen | TSgt. Dillon | Mrs. Snipes |
| Capt. Davidson | Capt. Lehr | Sgt. Mitchell | TSgt. Nikolaus |
| Mrs. Davidson | Mrs. Lehr | Maj. Jackson | Maj. Mann |
| Sgt. Maj. Turner | Maj. Yohman | Mrs. Jackson | Maj. Boevers |
| MSgt. Brewer | CW3 Carter | Mr. Dunham | Mrs. Boevers |
| Mrs. Davidson | Mrs. Carter | Capt. Cox | MSgt. Benson |
| Sgt. Maj. Turner | Mrs. Miller | Mrs. Cox | SFC Evans |
| MSgt. Brewer | 1st Sgt. Caruthers | SSgt. Preston | Mrs. Stobbs |
| Mrs. Wiggins | Mrs. Carthers | Mrs. Preston | Sgt. Fairheart |
| Mrs. Wiggins | SFC Walker | Sp5 Blasko | Mrs. Fairheart |
| Sgt. Charlton | Mrs. Walker | Mrs. Blasko | Sp4 Ayala |
| Mrs. Charlton | Mrs. Miller | Capt. Holman | Mrs. Ayala |
| TSgt. Haddock | MSgt. Ford | Mrs. Holman | MSgt. McClure |
| Capt. Peterson | Mrs. Ford | SFC Tydlaska | Mrs. McClure |
| Mrs. Peterson | SSgt. Kennedy | Mrs. Tydlaska | Maj. Lauer |
| 1st Sgt. Crowley | Mrs. Kennedy | SSgt. Waterman | Mrs. Lauer |
| Mrs. Crowley | Spt. Tanner | TSgt. Race | SFC Mullis |
| SSgt. Sier | Mrs. Tanner | Sp5 McHugh | SFC Derr |
| Mrs. Sier, SSgt. Crisp | SSgt. Johnson | SSgt. Wright | SSgt. Peck |
| Mrs. Crisp | Maj. Schwab | Mrs. Wright | Sp5 Burroughs |
| Sgt. Kelly | Capt. Kissane | | Mrs. Gill |
| Mrs. Kelly | | | |

U.S. Commander, Berlin Maj. Gen. John H. Mitchell
 Commander, Berlin Brigade Brig. Gen. Thomas N. Griffin Jr.
 Public Affairs Officer Lt. Col. Robert E. Ahrens
 Command Information Officer 1st Lt. William H. Kirkland

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steppin' out

by Helga Haftendorn

Berlin has its first "McDrive-in". McDonald's fast-food chain has opened a drive-in on 121 Clayallee. The hours are: Sunday through Thursday from 10 a.m. to 2 a.m., and Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 a.m.

Circus Roncalli

A reminder for circus fans: Circus Roncalli will give its last performance here on Sept. 23. There are two performances on the daily program, at 3 and 8 p.m. Mondays and Tuesdays there are no 3 p.m. performances. Tickets can be purchased daily from 10 a.m. at the circus, or you can have them reserved by calling 301-9091. The circus is located on Masurenallee, opposite Sender Freies Berlin. Take the underground to Theodor-Heuss-Platz, or buses 4, 92 or 94.

British Friendship Day

A German-British Friendship Day offers an extensive entertainment program on Saturday. The fest begins at 2 p.m. in front of Charlottenburg Castle and runs until 8 p.m. Take buses 9, 21, 54, 62, 74 or 87.

Jazz on Airport

Jazz fans might be interested in a jazz concert, given at Tegel Airport. This is a free music presentation in connection with a Fröhshoppen. It begins at 11 a.m. on Sunday. The site is the main hall of the airport. Take bus 8, or City-Bus 9.

Motorcycle Race

The German Automobile Club, ADAC, is sponsoring a motorcycle race this weekend on the AVUS. On Saturday, racing starts at 8 a.m., and on Sunday at 9 a.m. Tickets are DM5 to DM20 on Saturday, and DM10 to DM40 on Sunday. You can purchase them at the AVUS ticket booth on both days. Take buses 4, 10, 65, 69, 92 or 94.



Anna Warner Bachmann

Operettas and musicals

Anna Werner Bachmann, mezzo soprano, and Dwaine Douglas, tenor, conclude their European Tour with an appearance in Berlin on Sept. 22. They will be presenting selections from their favorite operettas and musicals. Accompanying will be Mrs. Terry Akamatsu of Berlin. The concert is free and open to the public. It will be held at the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, located on 23 Pacelliallee. Curtain time is 7:30 p.m.

September concerts

On Saturday, Jose Feliciano appears at the Philharmonie at 8 p.m. On Tuesday, The Hollies come to the Hochschule der Künste to present their Jubilee-Tour

at 8 p.m. Sept. 24 brings Queen, The Works Live in Concert '84 to the Deutschlandhalle. Curtain time is 8 p.m. Finally, on Sept. 25, Rodgau Montones performs at Quartier Latin, at 9 p.m.

Burgfest at Citadel

There will be more outdoor activities going on this weekend, when the Burgfest auf der Zitadelle in Spandau district will be celebrated. The Castle Fest at Spandau Citadel begins at 1 p.m. on both days and lasts until 8 p.m. on Saturday, and 6 p.m. on Sunday. Admission to this medieval atmosphere is DM2, and tickets can be purchased at the entrance to the citadel, but also in advance at the Kunstamt, located on 2 Am Wall in Spandau. The Museumsdorf from Düppel will also be participating in the fest, showing medieval handicraft and drapery. There will be theater presentations, sale of arts and craft, a show with two bears, juggling, historic dances and a singer tournament. To get to Spandau Citadel, take buses 13, 34, 54, 55, 56, 63, 97 or 99.

Upcoming

Here are some concert highlights, coming to Berlin at the beginning of October: Talk Talk, It's my Life, comes to the Metropol on Oct. 3, at 8 p.m. Jethro Tull with his Concert Tour '84 can be enjoyed at the ICC, Saal 1 on Oct. 4, at 8 p.m. Julio Iglesias, the Spanish Troubadour, sings his catchy songs the following day, Oct. 5, at the ICC, Saal 1. Curtain time is also 8 p.m.

For tickets check any downtown ticket agency, or the Truman Plaza ticket booth, located at the American Express Travel Agency. The hours are: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., and again from 2 to 4 p.m. On Wednesdays, the ticket booth is open from noon until 6 p.m.

Check ITT for tickets to Jose Feliciano, Queen, Talk Talk, and Jethro Tull.



- 1 SHE-BOP/Cyndi Lauper
- 2 LET'S GO CRAZY/Prince
- 3 IF THIS IS IT/Huey Lewis & The News
- 4 DRIVE/The Cars
- 5 THE WARRIOR/Scandal
- 6 THE GLAMOROUS LIFE/Sheila E.
- 7 CRUEL SUMMER/Bananarama
- 8 COVER ME/Bruce Springsteen
- 9 DYNAMITE/Jermaine Jackson
- 10 ROCK ME TONIGHT/Billy Squier



photo by Mike Warren

What color is it?

Merna Johnson, child development services coordinator, teaches Ricardo Santamaria the shapes and colors of blocks during the new children's play group, which began Monday.

The play group is designed to give 2- and 3-year-olds a chance to participate in a pre-school environment before they reach pre-school age. "They learn how to share, give and take, and participate in a structured program," said Johnson. The play group meets from 9 to 11:30 a.m. on wednesdays and Mondays. Johnson said parents are welcome to take an active role in the program.

Bulletin Board

School elections

Elections for the 1984-85 School Advisory Committee at the Berlin American High School will be held September 19, 1984 at the first PTSA Open House at the school. Parents, teachers or students interested in running for positions on the committee may contact members of the election committee:

- Bernie Griffard — Parent — 831-3626
- Richard Webert — Parent — 5750 or 802-7991
- Charles Bleume — Teacher — 6391
- Tony Bell — School's Officer — 6556
- Lynn Anderson — Teacher — 6391
- Steve Mahlstedt — Parent — 7798 or 831-3703
- Chris Eichner — Teacher — 6391
- Jeanne Tibergehen — Teacher — 6391
- Katherine Brooks — Student — 6391

The committee meets once per month to discuss issues, policies and procedures pertinent to the Berlin American High School. The committee represents the parents, teachers and students in offering advice and suggestions to the school administration about their concerns. Last year, several major policy changes were made as a result of suggestions from this committee:

1. Students have to maintain a passing grade average in order to participate in any extra-curricular activities.
2. Improvements were made in the lunch program.
3. Greater recognition is now being given to academic achievements.
4. The Snack Bar (Bear's Den) started selling only nutritional snacks.
5. Assisted development of greater school spirit by obtaining approval for the all-school jacket (which will also assist in giving greater recognition to academic/musical achievements.)
6. Drew attention to the health concerns of parents/teachers/students about smoking in the school. The committee consists of four parents, four teachers and one student to represent all sides of the issues concerning the school. Interested persons from the school community are encouraged to get involved.

Leave your name and telephone number with the School Office (6391) if unable to reach any of Election Committee members.

Thrift Shop news

Saturday is the last day for summer clothes consignment. Now is the time to do your fall closet cleaning and bring in those unused items taking up precious space. We're ready to take your winter items Saturday, Monday and Tuesday between 10 a.m. and noon. September is DODDS month.

The Thrift Shop will be closed Thursday, Sept. 20 for Volunteer Participation Day.

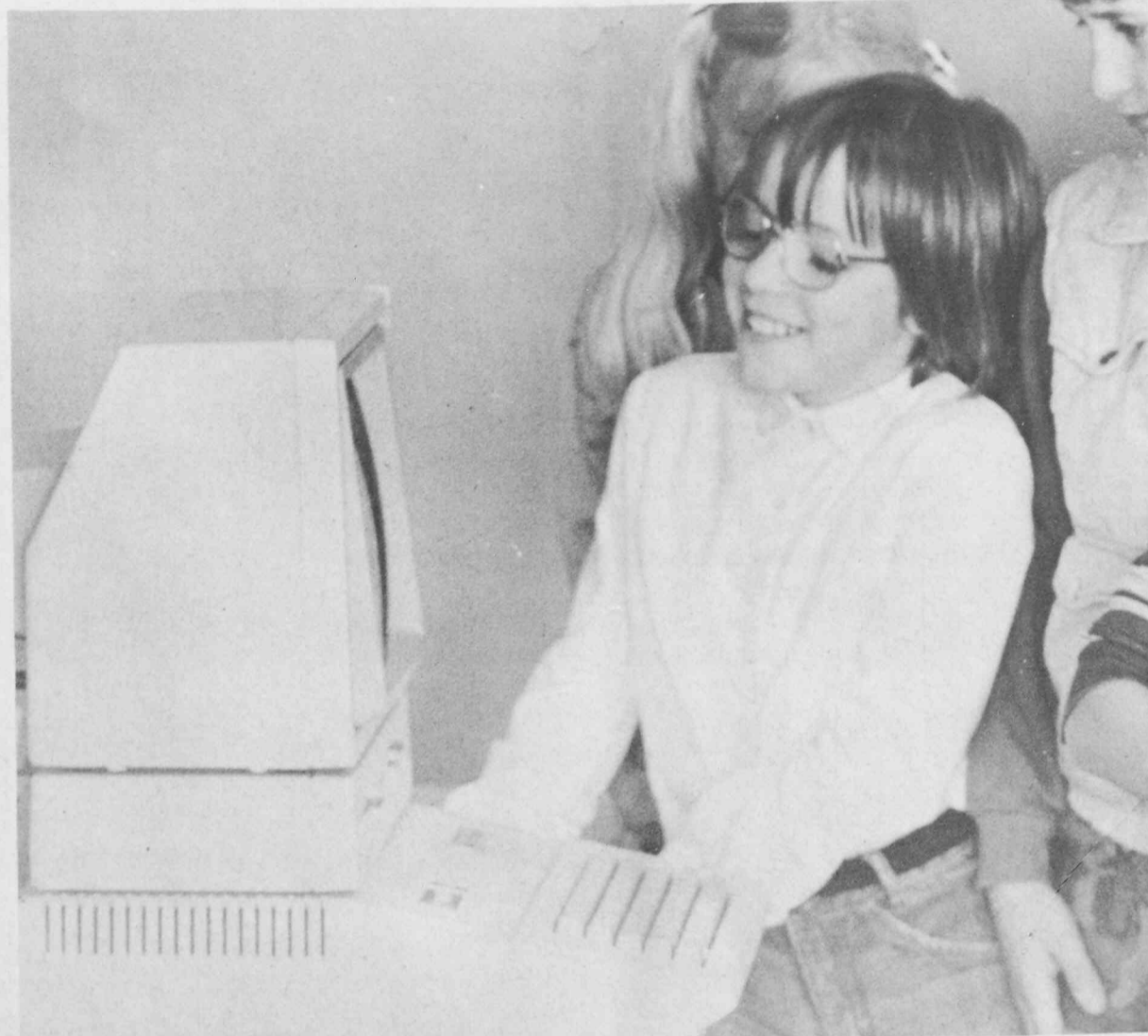
Volunteer Orientation is Sept. 27 between 10 a.m. and noon. Come join us for fun, bargains galore, free child care, and a free light lunch while meeting new friends and assisting your community. Put in on your calendar.

Where's the beef?

In the past the Commissary Meat Department has provided a special order service as a convenience to all personnel. However, due to the heavy special order demand during the last few weeks our display case has suffered at the expense of the other customers.

The Commissary Staff is presently trying to adjust the beef supply to meet these heavy demands. We anticipate a partial relief by the middle of September and a lasting solution by the middle of October.

You, our patron, can help. We, the Commissary Staff,



Hey, this is fun

The magic of a new computer fascinates this young student at the John F. Kennedy School. The computer was donated to the school by the Warrant Officers Association with proceeds from the Volksfest, and, according to school principal Chris Hanna, "the kids are really excited about it."

ask that you limit your special orders to those items not commonly cut for the case. We in return will do our best to provide you with the best service possible.

Open house

There will be an open house on Sept. 19 at 6:00 p.m. at the Berlin American High School. Everyone is invited to attend, meet the new board members and your children's teachers. Most people are not aware that the PTSA gave over \$5000 this past year to college bound students from BAHS to further their education. Each year they also give a tremendous amount of expensive equipment to the School for the use of our students. Without these contributions, many of our students would not have the opportunity to use modern equipment such as computer printers, neon lasers and even microscopes. What the PTSA needs now is you and your support and ideas. Come join us on Sept. 19 at 6:00 p.m. and help us make Berlin a better place for you and Berlin American High School a better learning institution for your child.

Couples group

If you are part of an American couple, would like to get to meet some German couples in the community, and don't know how to go about it, the KONTAKT club has a program designed just for you. And the beauty of it is that all it takes to get involved is a phone call.

The KONTAKT club, a German-American friendship club, has set up a Couples Referral Program to assist

German and American couples in meeting and spending time with each other. According to KONTAKT coordinator John Yoakum, the club has already lined up several German couples who are anxious to get to know their American counterparts. Perspective American couples, after telling a little bit about themselves, will be matched up with a German couple with whom they have things in common. The foursome will then be able to get to know each other in activities of their choosing, such as movies, or dinner.

The number to call for the Couples Referral Service is 819-6809. So if you want to get to know some German couples, help is just a phone call away.

Pet owners

Here is some information pet owners might find helpful when they are trying to find their lost pets. You might have a chance to find them at Tierheim Lankwitz, the local animal home. The Tierheim is located in the district of Lankwitz, on 21-27 Dessauerstrasse. Opening hours are Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and on Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to noon. On the grounds of the animal home, there is a Polizeiliche Tiersammelstelle, an animal collecting center, set up by the German Police. This Tiersammelstelle is the place to report to in person, when you are looking for your lost pet. There is a telephone number, 772-4062, but it is very busy. You will have to keep on dialing. Pets are only kept here for seven days, and if they are not claimed during that period, they will be put to sleep.

Allies work together in "Rondo"

By David Porreca

Whatever language and cultural barriers may exist among the three armies defending Berlin, they are being overcome this week as American, British, and French soldiers join together in Rondo XXVII, a training exercise designed to test the skills and teamwork of allied communications units.

Rondo is a four-day exercise conducted biannually on a rotating basis by the allied forces. The Berlin Brigade is hosting the current exercise, which began Tuesday morning at Rose Range and ends this afternoon. The British Berlin Infantry Brigade hosted the previous Rondo.

For the exercise, each allied force contributes 12 communications soldiers. The American contingent contains members of Signal Support Company and the 4th, 5th, and 6th Battalions of the 502nd. The British are represented by the 229th Signal Squad, while the French hail from the 11th Signal Company. The troops are divided into 12 teams, each consisting of an American, British, and French soldier, along with a vehicle. The teams work together throughout the exercise.

According to 1st Lt. Ronald Stimeare, chief of the Tactical Communications Branch and organizer of the current exercise, the objective of Rondo is to acquaint participating soldiers with allied military procedures and show the compatibility of allied communications equipment and operations. "To meet this objective," Stimeare said, "we're testing communications skills and basic soldier skills, promoting teamwork, and exposing the participants to various allied equipment."

The most intensive portion of Rondo is the testing of communications and basic soldier skills. This is accomplished through two phases—mobile and static. Each team must successfully pass both phases.

The mobile phase consists of six stations located throughout Berlin. The first station is the British fighting city of Ruhleben, where teams must set up communications equipment in a simulated warfare environment. This is followed by Tempelhof Central Airport, where teams are tested on radio-wire integration. At Doughboy



British and American Rondo teammates work on field equipment as part of the six-station mobile phase test. The test takes place at locations throughout Berlin,

City, teams perform wirelaying in a combat-in-cities environment. At Rose Range, teams erect a directional antenna and submit a MIJI interference report. Teams then go to the Wannsee, where they conduct a water crossing with remote equipment. The final station is block 90 in the Grunewald, where teams must erect another antenna and transmit a "salute" report. Each team must provide their own transportation to the stations.

The static phase challenges the troops' basic soldier skills. The weapons range at Keerans tests marksmanship, while land navigational abilities are put to the challenge in an orienteering exercise through the Grunewald.

To promote teamwork, Rondo features, in addition to the six-station mobile phase, a team reaction course at McNair Barracks. "The course simulates combat-in-cities obstacles," Stimeare said. "It forces teamwork. Each team must move from the obstacles as a group, not as individuals. We grade them on interaction, not just completion."

Exposure of the soldiers to a wide range of allied equipment takes place through the mobile phase stations and the formal presentation of different types of communications equipment and vehicles.

Rondo began Tuesday morning with a talk-through of the mobile and static test phases. In the afternoon, the teams walked through the mobile phase and received hands-on experience with the equipment they would be tested on later in the week. Interpreters were available for the French, although no interpreters would be allowed when formal testing began. The day ended with preparation of bivouac sites and a demonstration of American and British equipment.

On Wednesday, formal testing began. Six teams went through the mobile phase while six went through the static. Testing continued Thursday as the teams switched phases. Rondo concluded today with a confidence course at Doughboy City in the morning, and an awards presentation to the best overall team this afternoon.

The men in charge of the Rondo troops were pleased with the conduct of the exercise; only the French/English language barrier posed a problem during the week.

and team members must provide their own transportation to each station.

"Rondo has gone exceptionally well," commented 2nd Lt. Peter Halse, communications officer of the 6-502nd. "There is a little difficulty with the language problem, but the French have adjusted well. Both they and the British have performed well with our equipment. Everyone's having a good time; it's a great opportunity to meet our allies."

British 2nd Lt. Ian Favager, leader of the 229th Signal Squad, agreed. "The main benefit of an exercise like this is that the troops get used to working together and understanding one another," he said. "I was involved in the last Rondo, and this compares favorably. It's very sharp and well-organized. The American equipment is easy to get the hang of—it's just a matter of time."

The NCOIC of the French 11th Signal Company, 1st Sgt. Paul Jezequel, was well aware of the handicaps his troops operated under. "For the American and British soldiers, this is their job," he said. "Our soldiers, though, are drafted—they are in the army for only one year, so they don't have a chance to get as specialized as the British and Americans. And of course there is the language problem. But an exercise like Rondo is very good for relations among the three armies. This is my fifth Rondo, and each one gets better—more technical and thorough. All the American officers and soldiers here are very competent. There is one thing French people say about American attitudes—they are very cool."

For the troops themselves, Rondo was a rare chance to get to know their allied compatriots. "My first interest is in meeting Americans and British," said Draftee 1st Class Philippe Boucher, of the 11th Signal Company. "That's more important than the technical aspect. We don't know each other the rest of the year."

"It's good to work together with the French and British," said Sp.4 Saul Ortiz of the 6-502nd. "It lets us find out some of the different ways we do things."

Some things, though, remain the same regardless of the army. "I thought our food was bad," remarked Signalman Clive Smith of the 229th after finishing an American C-ration lunch. "I guess you can't escape awful army food."



A member of the British 229th Signal Squad tests communications equipment as American and French Rondo teammates watch.

News briefs

German decoration presented

Washington (ARNews): — Germany's highest award to foreign officers, the "Federal Armed Forces Commendation Cross In Gold," was recently presented to Maj. Gen. Floyd W. Baker, commanding general of the Army's Health Services Command.

The German defense minister's award recognizes Baker's "exceptional service and meritorious contribution" toward cooperation between the United States and West Germany.

The medal, which German officials say is seldom awarded, was presented by Lt. Gen. Heins Kasch, the German army's deputy chief of staff.

In making the presentation, Kasch pointed out Baker's role in a 1979 exchange of medical personnel for training and the standardization of work, operational procedures and equipment used by both American and German military forces. Baker's most recent assignment in Germany, said Kasch, "promoted partnership relations on all levels between the medical services of the United States and the Federal Republic of Germany."

"As I saw our American and German forces planning, working, conducting exercises and also playing together," said Baker, "I gained confidence that all soldiers, should they be wounded in another war, will receive high quality medical care no matter in whose hospital they might be cared for."

Student travel

Washington (ARNews) — The Army's military student travel program has been revitalized by congressional approval of an additional \$1.9 million.

The program was designed to give students one round trip annually from their overseas home to school in conus. However, since May 15, the army has been funding travel only one way. The approval will allow the army to resume funding travel both to and from conus.

Congress has also modified the program by permitting travel to be funded only to and from conus port of entry or exit, with cost of travel within conus being borne by the traveler. This portion of the program will go into effect on Sept. 1, according to Maj. Jim Woodbridge of the Army's comptroller office.

The legislation is awaiting the president's signature.



Beer bonanza!

For many soldiers, drinking beer is strictly an after-hours activity. But on Wednesday, several Berlin Brigade soldiers got the opportunity to practice one of their favorite hobbies during the middle of the day. And it didn't cost them an Article 15, either.

Soldiers from the various companies in the 6th Battalion, 502nd Infantry, were treated to a beer tour by the Schultheiss brewery, where they were shown how the brew is made, from start to finish. And immediately after the tour, the fifty troops got the chance to

sample the finished product. And sample it, and sample it...

The purpose of the tour, according to tour guide Kurt Schacht, is to aid in fostering German-American relations. And by the end of the day, the soldiers on the tour were relating quite well with everyone.

"I found the tour very interesting," said Sp4 Gary Edwards, "but the best part is drinking the beer. The last time they had a tour, I was the driver so I couldn't drink. This time I'm not driving, and I love every minute of it."

Adams praises HHC

Like the comedian Rodney Dangerfield, soldiers attached to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Berlin Brigade, sometimes feel they have problems getting respect. Everyone knows that their jobs are important, but when it comes to soldiering, few HHC soldiers are mistaken for Audie Murphy. Nicknames like "clerk jerk" and wearers of the "AG shield of shame" abound.

However, several soldiers in HHC BBde are doing a great deal to change that image. These troops are advancing their soldiering abilities, and they are being recognized. On Sept. 6, 25 HHC soldiers received awards from Col. Frank Adams, deputy brigade commander, for achievements ranging from expert marksmanship to perfect scores on the PT test.

Particularly impressive was the achievement of Sp5 Robert Lewis, who was presented a silver triad coin for 95 per cent on both SQT and weapons qualification and 100 per cent on the APRT. Adams praised Lewis' accomplishment, adding that "there are not that many silver triad medal winners in the entire Brigade."

"The soldiers of HHC definitely do soldierly things,

the nuts and bolts training," Adams said. "And these soldiers attest to that."

One of the areas HHC soldiers really enjoy shining in is qualifying with their weapons. "I'm really proud of what I've done," said Sp5 Keith Hardy, who qualified as a 2nd Gunner with the difficult M2 50 Caliber machine gun. "I'm looking forward to achieving even more in the future in the command."

Sp4 Lisa LaLonde didn't figure on qualifying as an expert with her weapon. And with a busy work schedule and a minimum of practice under her belt, her chances appeared slim. "I was really scared out there," LaLonde admitted. However, a few butterflies and 40 rounds later, LaLonde had indeed earned the expert marksmanship badge, and with a perfect score to boot. About the only thing she did miss was a trip to Wildflicker, which is what she had to look forward to if she failed to qualify.

HHC soldiers work hard to prove that they aren't just "desk types." "These aren't simply headquarters warriors," Adams said of the awardees, "they're honest-to-God professional soldiers."



"Yes, but what harm could there be taking it back to the States, Sarge... SARGE?... SARGE?"

events

ads

For sale

Moped for sale — Piaggio Ciao, complete with two helmets and weather cover. Call 801-1925.

Three-Family-Sale — transformers, appliances, toys, bassinet, changing table, baby items, children's clothing and much more. Sale will be on Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 11 Flanagan Strasse, in the basement if the weather is bad.

Dodge Omni — automatic, power steering, five-door, luggage rack, stereo AM/FM radio, tape player, new tires, new brakes, 36,000 miles. Well maintained, US specifications, one owner, in excellent condition. Call 803-3357.

'84 Datsun Sunny — automatic, hatchback, AM-FM stereo tape player, new condition, asking \$4,850. Call 803-3357.

'78 Audi 100 — standard transmission, AM/FM cassette stereo with flush-mounted rear speakers. Excellent condition. Asking \$1,800. Call 782-8482.

Yard Sale — Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Building 6, Lloyd G. Wells Strasse. In case of rain, it will be in the basement. For sale are: leather frontroom furniture, \$900, or best offer. Dishwasher, \$200, or best offer. All less than one year old. Must sell this month, due to PCS move. Call 802-5375.

Basement Sale — Saturday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 11A Taylor Strasse. Items for sale are maternity clothes, sizes 12-16, a baby changing table (like new), dishes, silverware, some men's clothes, and much more.

Youth bedroom set — pine veneer, schrank, bookcase, desk, headboard unit and bedframe, \$300. Call 782-8937.

Atari Video Game Set — includes seven games: Pacman, Space Invaders, Zaxxon, Missile Command, Asteroids, Defender, Combat. Asking \$100. Call 782-8937.

1600-watt transformer — \$20; 15-watt transformer, \$5; five assorted size 220-volt extension cords, \$2 each; 5'x3'x2' table top aviary, \$20. Call 813-6239.

BMX Bike — Hutch expert racer, frame fork crank sprocket and headset. Paid DM750, will sell lowest price DM400. For more information, call John after 5 p.m. at 813-8675.

19" Zenith color TV — \$100 or best offer. Call 831-3736.

'74 Ford Van — excellent condition, customized. Call 811-8241 after 5:30 p.m.

'83 Suzuki GSX 400 ED motorcycle — has 4,500km. Selling for \$1,250. Call 855-4109 after 4 p.m.

'76 Toyota Corona — four-door with German specifications. Automatic transmission, car has five new tires, new starter, voltage regulator, alternator, and switch pack, interior and exterior are in very good condition. Car has recently passed POV inspection. Asking \$1,600, or best offer. Call 811-8397 evenings, before 9 p.m.

Singer 247 sewing machine — with case. Good condition, \$75, or best offer. Call 813-6491.

Eight-month-old female German Shepherd — Registered, good with kids. Call anytime 813-7133.

Wanted

Apartment to rent — DM300, DM400 warm. In the districts of Zehlendorf, Lichterfelde, Steglitz or Lankwitz. Call 813-8501 mornings only.

Miscellaneous

A 20-year-old girl — with two years of full-time housekeeping experience for an American family. I will gladly provide references. Can start work immediately, full or part-time. Call 324-6386.

Would you or your children like to learn a musical instrument? — Piano, clarinet, sax, trumpet, trombone. Call 771-4979.

Reward

For one sweetheart ring — and one cluster diamond ring, left on Sept. 8 in the Main PX ladies bathroom. Return, please, to 148 Sundgauer Strasse, Apt. No. 2. Good reward.

ASMC

All ranks, military, civilian and LN's are alerted to the forthcoming second meeting of the Berlin Chapter of the American Society of Military Comptrollers (ASMC) on Sept. 21, at 11:15 a.m. in the Tempelhof Central Airport Officers' Open Mess. ASMC is a non-profit educational professional organization for persons involved in the fields of financial, general, and resource management, accounting, finance, budgeting, programming, reporting, statistics, auditing, cost and price analysis, management analysis, and supporting activities in management/industrial engineering, automatic data processing, operations research/systems analysis. If you are not a member yet, join us and sign up. For additional information, call 819-6410.

The following are the menus for TAR and BAHS schools, beginning the week of Sept. 17:

Monday — Salad, hot turkey sandwich, gravy, glazed carrots, pears and milk.

Tuesday — Lettuce, pickles, hamburger on bun, French fried potatoes, ice cream and milk.

Wednesday — Green bean salad, fried chicken, gravy, mashed potatoes, fruit cocktail, milk, bread and butter.

Thursday — Carrot sticks, meat balls, spaghetti, apple sauce, choco milk, bread and butter.

Friday — Cole slaw, batter-dipped fish, tartar sauce, mixed vegetable, fresh fruit, orange juice, bread and butter.

JFK School has the following menu for the week beginning Sept. 17:
Monday — Turkey cutlet filled with ham and cheese, mashed potatoes, mixed vegetables and yogurt.

Tuesday — Spam, fried potatoes, spinach and canned pineapples.

Wednesday — Chicken frikassée, rice and canned peaches.

Thursday — Two meatballs, noodles, tomato sauce and pudding.

Friday — Fish cakes, potato salad and plums.

It's Your Move

The video tape: "It's Your Move," will be shown on Sept. 27 at 2 p.m. in the hospital auditorium. The auditorium is located in the basement of the hospital, adjacent to the exchange facility. This film portrays the entitlements and responsibilities of DoD personnel shipping and/or storing household goods, and is highly recommended for all personnel who will be departing Berlin in the near future, or recently arrived. Much useful information can be obtained from the film. Spouses are urged to attend with their sponsors.

Commodore 64 Berlin Users Group

The Commodore 64 Users Group will conduct their monthly organizational meeting on Sept. 21 at 7 p.m. in the TAR School cafeteria. All personnel who have an interest in the Commodore 64 are welcome to come and learn more about the group's activities. For more information, contact 826-4195.

Class VI Store closed

The Class VI Store, Truman Plaza, will be closed for the semi-annual inventory from 4 p.m. on 22 Sept. to 1 p.m. on 25 Sept.

Children's Center

The Children's Center Drop-In Program, located at the Youth Activities building, Truman Plaza, is open three days a week: Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Children attending this program must be 18 months to 12 years, and be pre-registered at the main center. Parents are required to furnish a bag lunch for children who are present during the lunch hours. Children are accepted on a space available basis only. Fees are 85 cents for the first child, and 45 cents for the second child.

Please watch requirements and deadline!

Community Events and Classified Ads for each week's issue will be printed on a space available basis only, and are due by close of business Tuesday. The events and ads will be run for one week and must be resubmitted for each issue. Only double-spaced, typewritten announcements will be accepted for printing. All ads must be signed to be accepted.

City Colleges of Chicago

CCC will be offering Introduction to Business at the McNair Education Center, beginning on Monday through Oct. 24. This command-sponsored class will be held Monday through Thursday from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Register today at the CCC office at Clay Headquarters, Building 4, fourth floor, or at any Education Center. Call 819-7235 for more information.

Army Mutual Aid Association

A one-hour briefing will be conducted by a representative of the Army Mutual Aid Association, concerning Survivor Benefits and Personal Affairs Management. This briefing is open to all personnel with 18 or more years of service, retirees, and their spouses. It will be held at the Checkpoint NCO Club on Sept. 21, at 2 p.m. For further information, contact AG Personnel Actions, Mrs. Underwood, at 819-6536 or 819-6604.

Return your library books

How would you like to be cut off from your family and friends? Ignored, and stuck off in a dark corner? You'd hate it, right? So, why do it to your library books. Let them at least come home to visit on the first and 15th of every month. They have relatives in all three branches, and at the Main Library.

University of Oklahoma

Don't let a tough duty schedule prevent you from pursuing a masters degree. The University of Oklahoma offers regular on-campus courses, taught by OU home campus faculty, once a month within a one-week intensive seminar format. All class sessions are held during off-duty hours. This term, the MPA program offers "Politics of Government Budgeting" and the Human Relations Program offers "Chemical Dependency". Begin your masters degree now. For details, call 819-5237 or 819-6794.

Fun Day at JFK's

The John F. Kennedy School is having their annual Fun Day on Sept. 22 between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. Entertainment, food and drinks, games and a flea market are some of the attractions you will find there. Come and enjoy a fun day at Fun Day.

Your hospital informs

A Pap and Pelvic Day will be conducted on an appointment basis in the OB/GYN Clinic, U.S. Army Hospital, Berlin from 1 to 3 p.m. on Thursday. Patients in need of their annual pap and pelvic examination should call the OB/GYN Clinic at 819-4120 or 819-4121 during normal duty hours to obtain an appointment for this day. Due to the limited time available, patients with specific problems will not be seen during this time. If 11 months have expired since your last examination, you are encouraged to call the OB/GYN Clinic for an appointment. Questions may be directed to the OB/GYN Clinic. Patients should pick up their medical records at the Outpatient Records Desk, prior to entering the clinic.

11th Annual Allied NCO Ball

The 11th Annual Allied Noncommissioned Officers Ball will be held on Oct. 5, at the Checkpoint NCO Club. Cocktails begin at 6 p.m., and dinner at 7 p.m. Entertainment will be provided along with music and dancing. Formal military dress is required. Tickets are \$13 per person, and are available through the unit CSM's or ISG's.

Central Texas College

CTC offers command-sponsored Office Management Courses during the period Monday through Dec. 7. Don't miss this opportunity to improve your skills and earn college credit toward a certificate or degree. Registration is in progress. For more information, call CTC at 819-3649 or 819-3651, or stop by Building 1019 at McNair Barracks.

AG requests Appointment Slips

Effective immediately all personnel, coming to AG Personnel Management Branch must have an AEBA Form 034014, Appointment Slip, signed by the PSNCO, authorizing individual soldiers to come to AG Personnel Management to conduct business. If an individual arrives at AG Pers. Mgt. Br. without an Appointment Slip, he/she will be returned to the servicing PAC. This procedure is being effected in order to preclude soldiers coming to AG without first processing through their PACs. In approximately 90 per cent of the cases, the PACs could provide the needed service. With the implementation of this policy, AG Pers. Mgt. Br. will be able to provide more timely service to the command's soldiers as a whole.

Johnny Rodriguez performs

By a joint venture the Checkpoint NCO Club and Starlight Grove present Johnny Rodriguez, a Country and Western singer. Open to all ranks, performance will be at the Starlight Grove on Sept. 28, from 9 p.m. to 2 a.m. Cover charge is \$10, and tickets will be sold at the Starlight Grove and the Checkpoint NCO Club.

Detour to RTO

Various civic organizations have scheduled a street festival in Lichterfelde-West on Sept. 22, to commemorate the rebuilding of the old Bahnhof, the railroad station. To facilitate this endeavor, Baseler Strasse between Hans-Sachs-Strasse and Curtius Strasse will be blocked that day, between 1 and 8 p.m. Access to the RTO during that period will be via Kadettenweg, then left on Hans-Sachs-Strasse to the RTO, or left or right (as appropriate) off Drakestrasse and along Hans-Sachs-Strasse to the RTO. German police will provide additional security in the vicinity of the RTO during the festival.

American Women's Club of Berlin

The AWC is having their Welcome Sign-Up Luncheon on Thursday, at 10 a.m. at the Harnack House. Over 30 classes will be offered for the member's pleasure in the coming months. The luncheon is free for new members, but reservations are necessary. For A-M call 832-5498, and N-Z, 813-8920.

Big Bend Community College

Clay Headquarters, in conjunction with Big Bend Community College, is beginning special daytime classes for family members, who are interested in improving their skills in English-As-A-Second-Language. Classes meet Monday through Friday, for a three-week period, starting on Monday. For more information, call 819-6992, or Big Bend Community College at 819-3453.

Fall Fashion Show at Checkpoint

A beautiful Fall Fashion Show is coming to the Checkpoint NCO Club on Oct. 20. See some of Europe's top fashions, as well as home-made sweaters and furs. African dancers and belly dancers are providing an exotic mixture of entertainment. Tickets are \$5 in advance. The fashion show begins at 9 p.m.

Berlin Girl Scouts

A Girl Scout Neighborhood Troop Committee/Neighborhood Association Meeting will be held on Thursday at 7:30 p.m. for all registered girl scouts, 14 years, or older (male and female). We will be voting on the constitution and bylaws. There will also be an investiture for all new adult members. Maximum participation is essential to ensure that this year's Girl Scout Program gets off to a good start. The meeting place will be at 15 Lansstrasse.

The Berlin Neighborhood Girl Scouts are in need of adults to serve as troop leaders, Neighborhood Troop Committee and Neighborhood Association members. If you are 18 years or older, male, female, married or single, we could use your help. You provide your spare time, and we will provide the training. This is a very rewarding program in which you could have a part in helping young girls become responsible adults, and have fun doing it too.

For further information, call Eleanor Peters at 832-6928, or Marge at 813-8540.

Youth Activities

For more information, call the YA at 819-6249. Attention all Teen Punks or would-be Punks. There will be a Punk Dance on Saturday at 8:30 p.m. with a variety of music. There will also be a Punk Contest. One dollar and a valid YA card will get you in for a night of Punk fun.

Attention all preteens, the YA is sponsoring a Mini Carnival on Saturday at 3 p.m. There will be games and prizes for participants having a valid YA card.

There will be a Teen Skate-Along in the YA Gym on Monday, starting at 4 p.m. Participants must bring their own skates. A valid YA card must be shown, in order to participate.

The YA will be holding a Volleyball Night on Tuesday at 4 p.m. for all interested teens with valid YA cards. Pre-registration is not required, so grab some friends, and come over to the YA Gym.

All preteens having a birthday in the month of September, are invited to celebrate this occasion at the YA on Thursday, starting at 3 p.m. Refreshments will be served. There will be games and relays. You must sign up today, in order to partake in this special event. All preteens not having a birthday this month, but still wish to take part, must sign up and pay 50 cents, before the deadline.

YA will be closed on Sept. 22 for the MASH-Bash. The YA is looking for a Bowling League Instructor for preteens. There will be other duties, such as record-keeper and scorer. This is a paid position, based on how many participants sign up.

Tour with ITT

For information on any of these tours, call 819-6523 or 819-7189, or sign up at the Information, Tour and Travel Office (ITT) at the Sports Center on Hüttenweg.

See what it is like to live like a king. Visit the beautiful Charlottenburg Palace and Gardens with ITT on Saturday.

The Spandau Zitadelle, constructed in the 16th Century, was the scene of fierce fighting during the Napoleonic wars. Visit this ancient fortress on ITT's Spandau Zitadelle Tour on Sept. 22.

The Führer is dead! That was the goal of "Operation Valkyrie". See why the operation failed, and what happened to those involved in the Hitler assassination attempt of July 20, 1944. ITT's Valkyrie Tour is offered on Sept. 29.

ITT offers a Free Sightseeing Tour of West Berlin, the last Sunday of each month. Sign up now, seats go fast.

sports

Army, A.F. in tennis league

As the weather makes its inevitable rush toward winter, many people are packing up their tennis racquets, figuring that the season is just about over. But for several Army and Air Force personnel, the tennis season is just beginning.

The two services have combined under the name United States Forces and have entered two teams in the German Industrial Tennis League. The league is mostly comprised of German companies and firms. In fact, according to player-coach Larry Henly, the two USF teams are the only American teams in the league. But the teams have been very competitive in their respective divisions, and the number one team has even managed to emerge as an early season powerhouse.

USF I is led by Henly, the USAB singles and doubles titlist, and Dave Rios, who narrowly missed qualifying for the All-Army tennis team in August. The team's first match was postponed due to rain, but in the second match, Sept. 8, the six-man team was clicking on all cylinders as they thrashed their opponents eight matches to

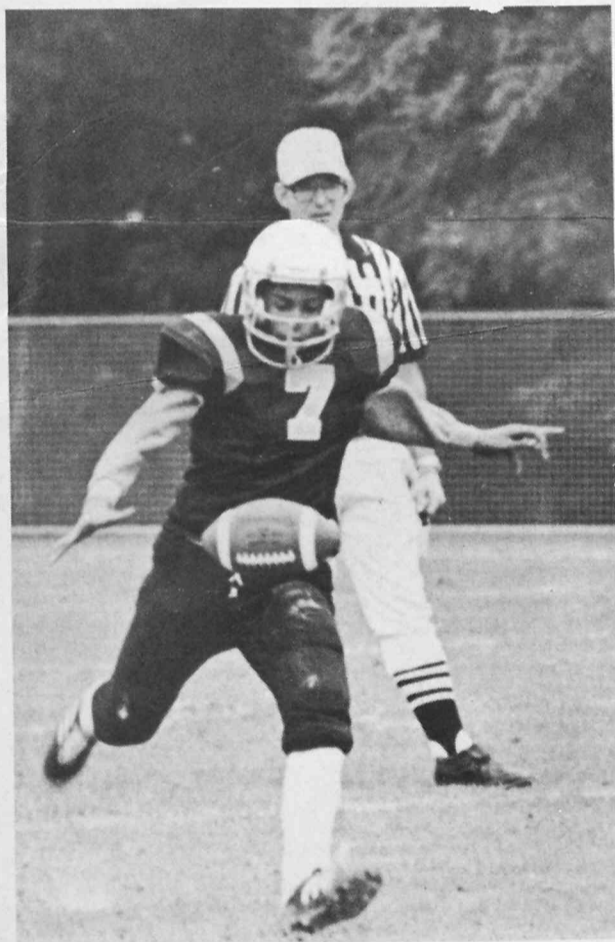
one. Making the victory more impressive was the fact that two of the team's strongest players, Hal Worthington and Alex Crater, were unable to compete due to other commitments. Henly merely pulled up a couple of players from the second team and the team still rolled to the easy victory.

USF II should have been weakened by the absence of two of their better players, but it was hardly noticeable in their match, which they also won, 8-1. USF II is led by Jürgen Steinbrück, who shook off a nagging shoulder injury to polish off his opponent. Joe Modellsee, Kenneth Baybutt, John Stephen, Joe Scott, J.C. Moss and Dan Cotten make up the usual starting line up for the squad, and for the most part they all came up with solid efforts in the victory.

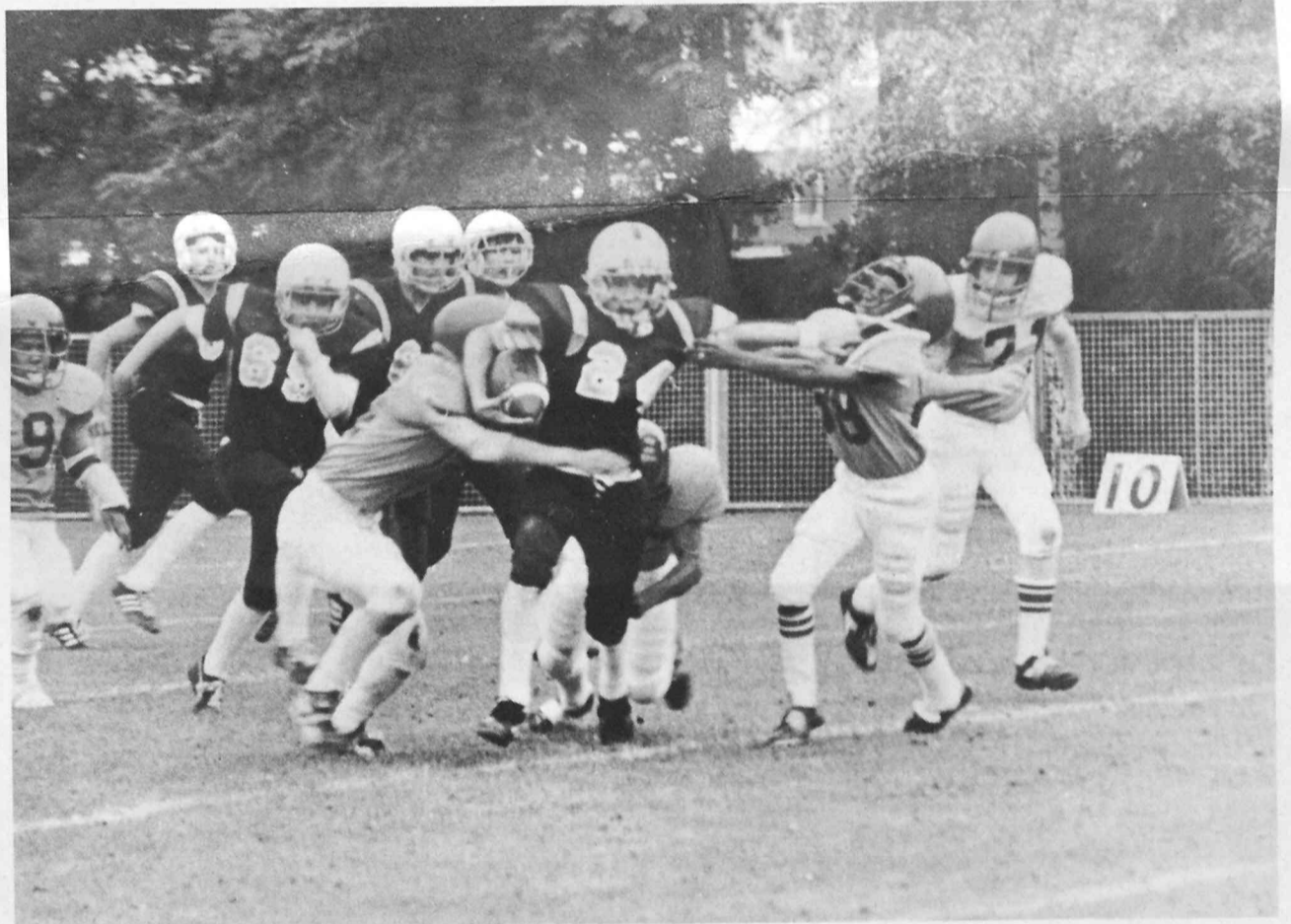
The two teams will hit the courts Saturday as they attempt to chalk up two more wins. The top team will play at the Harnack House tennis courts, while the second team will serve them up at Tempelhof Central Airport. Both matches start at 9 a.m., and spectators are encouraged to come out and cheer the home teams on.



USFI star Hal Worthington serves up one of his kick serves in recent tournament action.



The action was hot and heavy at Düppel Sept. 8 as the Youth Activities football team kicked off its 1984 season in a game against Frankfurt. The emphasis of the game is on the spirit of competition rather than



merely who won, so the kids play hard and enjoy themselves regardless of the final score. The team will take to the field again Sept. 22 when they'll be matched up against Kaiserslautern. All games are on

Saturday with a kickoff time of 12:30 p.m. The team entertains opponents from all over West Germany at the field at Düppel.

Tryouts scheduled soon for basketball teams

Basketball season is fast approaching, and both the men's and women's Brigade teams are looking forward to some serious wheeling and dealing in the 1984 campaign. For anyone who's interested in participating in this year's hoop action, the time to start getting ready is now, because the season isn't far away.

Tryouts for the women's Brigade team will take place

Oct. 10 at 6 p.m. at Adrews Gym, and also Oct. 11 at the same time at the Berlin Brigade Sports Center. After the team has been picked, formal practices will be held four times a week, Mondays and Wednesdays at Andrews Gym, and Tuesdays and Thursdays at the BB Gym. New coach Bill Feaser promises that the team will play a very

exciting brand of basketball, but warns potential players that they'd better "be in good shape" for the tryouts.

On the men's side of the free throw line, their Brigade team tryouts are scheduled for Oct. 1, 6 p.m., at the BB gym. Two weeks later, the team will start conducting official practices.

sports

briefly

Basketball coach needed

A basketball coach for the Brigade Men's Basketball Team is urgently required by MSAD Physical Activities. Experienced coaches should submit a resume to Don Carter, Sports Director, or call 819-6768 as soon as possible. A basketball coach is urgently required!

Boxing coach needed

MSAD is also seeking a boxing coach for the Brigade team. Experience is required. Anyone who feels qualified to fill the position should submit a resume to Tom Kearney, Men's Sports Coordinator, MSAD Physical Activities Branch, Building 2, Room 3032, or call 819-6768 as soon as possible.

Women's fitness center

The women's fitness center is now equipped with a brand new universal weight machine. Now's a good time to take advantage of it and start a program. The center is located at Andrews Pool, and it's open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. And the fitness center at the Berlin Brigade Pool is open seven days a week, 52 weeks a year.

Judo instructor needed

Youth Activities is looking for a judo and karate instructor. These positions are open to anyone who would be interested in teaching the children the basics of these skills. For more information concerning these positions please call 819-6249.

Wrestling team

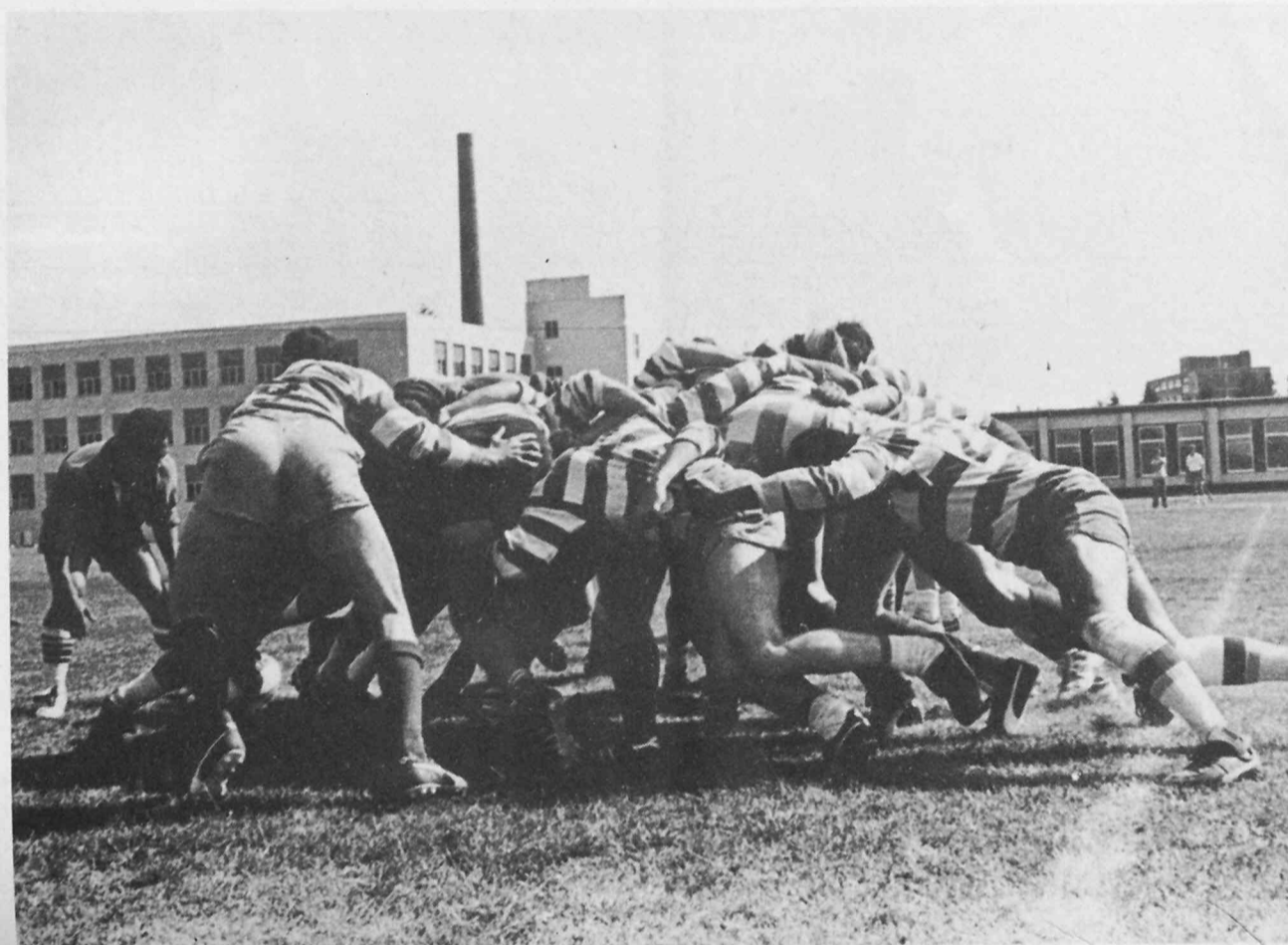
The first practice for the Brigade wrestling team will be held on Sept. 17 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the McNair Gym. Subsequent practices will take place every Monday, Wednesday and Friday evening at the same time.

Sports Stumper

1. How many division playoffs did Whitey Herzog's team lose before his St. Louis Cardinals won the World Series in 1982?
2. What two teams took part in the longest playoff game in NBA history?
3. What players comprised the Los Angeles Rams' "Fearsome Foursome" defensive line of the '60s?
4. Who coached the Montreal Canadiens to four consecutive Stanley Cup victories during the '70s?

Last week's answers

1. Jim Merritt, 1970; 2. one, 1981-82; 3. Texas; 4. Edmonton.



The Berlin Yanks gang up and fight for the ball in a pre-season contest against the Baumholder Highland-

ers. The Yanks won the game, but have struggled in regular season play.

Berlin Yanks open season

The object of the game is to march downfield in pursuit of a score. It's a game with plenty of contact, and the man with the ball is looked upon as an endangered species. The game combines teamwork and individual excellence to produce scoring drives.

Sounds a lot like football, right? True, this game is similar to football, but there are some very distinct differences. The most obvious difference is that the game, which is extremely physical, is played without pads or helmets. The game uniform consists of a long-sleeved shirt, a pair of shorts, some socks and soccer cleats, a far cry from the veritable suit of armor football players encase themselves in.

The game is rugby, and while it has some football traits, it also has a style that's completely its own. And rugby is becoming increasingly popular among Americans. The Berlin Brigade, never one to ignore a trend, has a team that's not only competitive but also capable of upending the best teams in the city when they're on their game.

The team is called the Berlin Yanks, and while they've struggled a bit in their season-opening games, they've held their own against a strong German team and one of Britain's finest.

The Yanks opened their season Sept. 6 against Sieman's, a local German squad. Although the Yanks took the field without eight of their starters, they battled Sieman's in a scoreless duel right down to the wire. "We played on a wet field and there were a bunch of turn-

overs," said Greg Zipf, the team president. "But we played well in both halves and we even had a chance to win it," he said. A missed penalty kick by the Yanks late in the second half kept Sieman's in the ballgame.

With about three minutes remaining in the contest, Sieman's got the break that would lead them to victory. "We mishandled the ball all the way back to our own goal line," Zipf said, "and there was a collision for the ball." The officials penalized Berlin for the collision and Sieman's scored on a penalty try to take the lead and the game. Final score: Sieman's 4, Berlin 0.

The Yanks next game, against the Royal Hampshires team from England, wasn't nearly as close. "They're the best team in the city," Zipf said. "They have a superior knowledge of the game and they're also very experienced." Although the Yanks weren't embarrassed, the Hampshires had things pretty much their own way en route to a 24-0 decision. And to no one's surprise, the powerful Royal Hampshires team went on to capture the 16-team tournament.

"Many of our top players were either injured or out in the field," Zipf said. "We were forced to play a lot of new people. I think for what we had we did pretty well."

The Yanks next game will be on Saturday against the Prince of Wales Own Regiment's second team at the rugby field behind Olympic Stadium. The Yanks are always looking for additions to their team, and no experience is necessary. Practice takes place every Tuesday and Thursday at McNair.