

U.S., Italian send medics to Khost

By Staff Sgt. Christina Bhatti
11th Public Affairs Detachment

FORWARD OPERATING BASE SALERNO, Afghanistan — The original Hippocratic Oath was written in 400 B.C. by Hippocrates, and has been changed and modified over the years, but it's underlying principle remains the same — caring for the sick to the best of the doctors' ability and remembering "that there is art to medicine as well as science, and that warmth, sympathy, and understanding may outweigh the surgeon's knife or the chemist's drug."

This warmth, sympathy and understanding is what brought together the doctors from the 946th Forward Surgical Team, Mobile, Ala. and the Italians from Forward Operating Base Salerno to visit a nearby orphanage in the town

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Photo by Pfc. Christina Carde

Bagram renewal...

An American and coalition soldier carefully guide a male-shower unit onto a flatbed as it held in mid-air by nothing but a crane. The shower unit is being removed to make room for the new Stradex female showers, and will be refurbished for use in the new Egyptian Hospital.

Savings plan open to deployed soldiers

By Pvt. 2 Terri Rorke
11th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — While soldiers are deployed here serving their country, they have the privilege of saving money and earning interest by participating in the savings deposit program here.

Currently, the finance office has a weekly average of twenty people coming in to make deposits under the program, said Capt. Monica Sneed, Detachment A, 126th Finance Battalion, Fort Bragg, N.C.

Considering there are about 5,000 soldiers here that number doesn't amount up to a lot of soldiers participating in the savings plan. Plus, she said there are a lot of repeat customers who contribute every week.

"It's a really good program because the interest is so high," said Sneed of the program that has government backing.

Sgt. 1st Class Rodney Richardson of the 126th Finance Battalion said, "I don't think they know the true benefit to the soldier," even

though everyone first deploying here receives a welcome brief and is informed of the savings program.

There are some stipulations to remember when signing up for the program:

- Members must have served in the theatre for at least 30 consecutive days or at least one day in each of the three consecutive months.
- Members may contribute up to \$10,000 into the program. They may contribute up to the amount of money they are entitled to receive on the payday prior to the deposit. The soldier may contribute an entire month's unallotted pay.
- Contributions may be allotted for active duty soldiers. National Guard and Reserve soldiers on Active status must give contributions in cash.
- Interest will accrue 10 percent annually, 2.5 percent quarterly, .01667 percent for two months and .00833 percent for one month on amounts less than \$10,000. No interest is paid on amounts

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World News (Compiled from CNN.com)



People gather Wednesday to view damage caused by the suicide bombing attack on one residential compound, the Hamra, in Riyadh.

Officials: Attacks possible in Kenya, Philippines, Malaysia

WASHINGTON — In the wake of Monday's deadly bombings in Saudi Arabia, U.S. officials say intelligence suggests additional terror attacks are possible soon in Kenya and Southeast Asia, particularly the Philippines and Malaysia.

The U.S. State Department issued a travel advisory for Malaysia on Wednesday warning of possible attacks like the one last year in Bali, Indonesia, on locations where Westerners congregate.

The Oct. 12, 2002 nightclub attacks killed 202 people, including seven Americans.

A Nov. 28, 2002 suicide bombing at the Israeli-owned Paradise Hotel in Mombasa, Kenya, killed 10 Kenyans and three Israelis.

In the Philippines, the threat deals with a Muslim guerrilla insurgency, said the officials who also believe Saudi Arabia could again be a potential target.

Iraqis uncover thousands

MAHAWIL, Iraq — The head of an Iraqi forensic team said Wednesday he expects to find as many as 15,000 bodies buried at mass graves about 55 miles (90 kilometers) south of Baghdad.

Hundreds of relatives of missing Iraqis gathered at the site in Mahawil, seeking to

find out the fate of their loved ones.

The forensic team has uncovered 1,500 bodies so far, identifying only a fraction of them.

The bodies are mostly of Iraqi Shiites who died in an uprising against Saddam Hussein following the 1991 Persian Gulf War, according to Human Rights Watch spokesman Peter Bouckaert and local officials.

Bouckaert said the crude means of uncovering the bodies — with a bulldozer — was destroying evidence from the burials.

He cited the example of an Iraqi identity document, with its number still intact, blowing away in the wind.

"This little piece of information could actually have led a family to recover the skeleton of their relative, but because it's blown away from this pile — as we see stuff blowing around all over the place — that family probably won't have the answer they seek here today," he said.

18 human cargo deaths in Texas

VICTORIA, Texas — Eighteen suspected illegal immigrants, including an infant, suffocated Wednesday after they rode in the back of a semi-trailer with dozens others from Mexico to south Texas, federal officials said.

Federal authorities leading the investigation believe the migrants were locked inside the truck. All the deaths were due to asphyxiation, dehydration or heat-related conditions, officials said.

Tyrone Williams of Schenectady, New York, to whom the truck was registered, was arrested Wednesday morning in Bel Air, Texas, said Michael Shelby, the U.S. attorney for the Southern District of Texas. No charges had been filed as of Wednesday afternoon.

Williams is a legal permanent U.S. resident from Jamaica, the prosecutor said.

Authorities were seeking two other individuals, a Hispanic female with a dark complexion and white male "who perhaps speaks Spanish," the prosecutor said. He did not detail their involvement.

Federal authorities had no immediate information on what charges may be filed, but

one official stressed that under a 1996 law a defendant charged with migrant smuggling that results in a death could be subject to the death penalty.

WHO: SARS no longer spreading in Canada

GENEVA — The World Health Organization on Wednesday said SARS is no longer spreading in Toronto, Canada.

"WHO has today removed Toronto, Canada, from the list of areas with recent local transmission," WHO said in a written statement.

The WHO said it made the change after a teleconference with Toronto and Canadian health officials who had objected to the WHO's travel advisory.

It said 20 days have passed since the last locally acquired case of severe acute respiratory syndrome was isolated in Canada, which means "the chain of transmission is considered broken."

Outside Asia, Toronto is the epicenter of the biggest SARS outbreak. Health officials in Canada have reported a total of 321 probable or suspect cases of SARS in the country, resulting in 24 deaths.

Last month, the WHO lifted a travel advisory against unnecessary travel to the city after a week in effect.

Jury clears gun firms

NEW YORK — Rejecting a lawsuit brought by the NAACP, a federal jury Wednesday cleared 45 gun manufacturers and distributors of allegations their marketing practices have stoked violence in black and Hispanic neighborhoods.

The jury deliberated for five days before reaching its verdict in the closely watched case that now goes to the judge for a final decision. The panel was unable to reach a verdict regarding 23 other defendants.

Chris Cox, chief lobbyist for the National Rifle Association, called the ruling "common sense" and said the lawsuit was "aimed at bankrupting a law-abiding American industry by holding them liable for the actions of criminals."

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exceeding \$10,000, except in the case of a member who is missing in action.

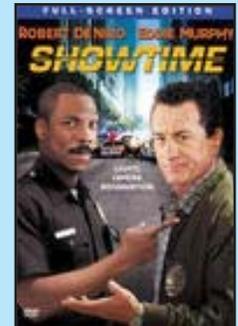
- Deposits made on or before the tenth of the month will accrue interest from the first of the month. Deposits made after the tenth of the month will accrue interest from the first day of the following month.

- All contributions will stop accruing interest 90 days after the soldier has departed theatre. If the 90th day doesn't end on the end of the month, interest will stop accruing the month prior.

For more information, or to start saving, visit the finance office located in Motel 6.

Bagram Air Base MWR presents

1530Z at the MWR building: "Showtime."
A spoof of buddy cop movies where two very different cops are forced to team up on a new reality based T.V. cop show.



Tomorrow's movie will be "Romeo Must Die."

Correction:

Wednesday's story: "Zeus deploys to Bagram," contained the following inaccuracies:

Zeus is a surface laid mine and unexploded ordnance neutralization system. The system doesn't detect mines or UXO.

The system is here on a one-year contract with the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command and will continue to support the ongoing land mine and UXO clearance operations here.

Zeus is a laser-based system. Sparta, Inc. developed and owns Zeus.

The U.S. Government has leased the system. Data collected during operations at Bagram will factor into the military's decision to pursue the fielding of the Zeus system.

Of the three lasers onboard Zeus, only one is used to neutralize munitions. The others are used to "spot" or "tag" the target and to range the target.

If the military decides to contract Sparta, Inc. to produce more Zeus systems, training will likely be part of that contract. There have been no discussions to that effect.

Local weather

TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER FORECAST:

	<i>Today</i>	<i>Friday</i>
Bagram:	<i>Sunny</i> H: 81F L: 45F	<i>Sunny</i> H: 82F L: 46F
Kandahar:	<i>Dusty</i> H: 91F L: 55F	<i>Dusty</i> H: 90F L: 54F
Kabul:	<i>Sunny</i> H: 79F L: 46F	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 82F L: 46F
Uzbekistan:	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 78F L: 50F	<i>Foggy</i> H: 80F L: 49F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

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A boy holds the medication given to him by American and Italian doctors during their visit to an orphanage in Khost.



Photos by Staff Sgt. Christina Bhatti

Italian Capt. Ferderco Lulardo, 9th Alpini Regiment, Napoli, Italy and Maj. Eric Romanucci, commander, 946th Forward Surgical Team, Mobile, Ala. check an orphan in an orphanage in Khost.



Italian Capt. Ferderco Lulardo, 9th Alpini Regiment, Naopi, Italy examines a boy during a visit to an orphanage in Khost.

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of Khost. They went to comfort and care for the children there.

The orphanage sits on the outskirts of Khost and houses approximately 50 children, with more who attended school there during the day. The building was too small to house all of the children who need it, but the teachers and administration do everything they can to make sure the

children have school and some food.

When the doctors arrived, they were greeted with thumbs up and smiles. They made “rounds” to all of the classrooms giving the children some attention and sweets.

When it was time to see patients, the long line of children patiently waited their turn to be seen.

“Most of these children have never seen a doctor,” said Maj. Eric Romanucci, commander,

946 FST. Of the children seen, most have common ailments that can be treated with over-the-counter drugs in the States, he said.

According to Romanucci, most of the children complained of dizziness, which is associated with anemia due to the lack of a proper diet. They also complained of non-specific pain or stomach pain that can be attributed to parasites.

“Most of these children have no shoes, and walk through garbage in the streets. It makes it easy for worms to get into their systems, but with no medical care, it makes it hard for them to get treated,” he said.

The doctors gave out medication ranging from daily vitamins to anti-parasite drugs.

“Our goal is to care for them and make sure that they get at least some of the things they need,” said Italian Capt. Ferderco Lulardo, 9th Alpini Regiment, Naopli, Italy.

Medication and care was the main mission, but as with most other missions in Afghanistan, winning the hearts and minds is also a priority.

“These visits give us a chance to get out into the community,” Romanucci said. “We get to meet the people, and they get to see us and realize that there is no truth behind the bad stories that have inundated them for so long. They get to see that westerners are good people.”



Coalition Sports Zone

(Compiled from *ESPN.com*)



The Wild are discovering the Ducks are much like themselves.

Will Wild beat the Ducks or themselves?

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Somewhere the Colorado Avalanche and Vancouver Canucks must be laughing.

Those two teams suffered unexpected playoff exits when they fell victim to the tight-checking, fast-skating Minnesota Wild in the first two rounds.

Now they get to watch from the comfort of their living rooms as the Wild get handed a large dose of their own medicine by the Mighty Ducks of Anaheim. Not only do the Ducks play a style similar to the Wild that it's like watching an intrasquad game when the teams play, but so far Mike Babcock's team has been beating the Wild at their own game.

The result is a 2-0 lead in the Western Conference finals for the Ducks, heading into tonight's Game 3 in Anaheim. This is not new territory for Jacques Lemaire's team, which trailed the Avalanche and Canucks 3-1 before rallying to win both series.

The Ducks played up this angle, pointing out at every turn that the Wild have rebounded from similar deficits.

"Any team that comes back from 3-1 deficits twice in the playoffs has a lot of resolve and a lot of talent on their team," said Ducks left winger Paul Kariya. "We expect they are going to play their best game of the series (today) and we are going to have to pick up our game a little more."

So will the Wild. For the first time this postseason, Minnesota seemed frustrated and somewhat out of sorts after its 2-0 loss to the Ducks on Monday in Game 2.

"Frustration has crept into our game plan," Wild left winger Andrew Brunette said. "And that's not like us."

Monday's defeat marked the second consecutive shut-out for Ducks goalie Jean-Sebastien Giguere, who appears to be on the fast track to winning the Conn Smythe Trophy as the Stanley Cup playoffs MVP. But unlike during

the opener of this series when Giguere made 39 saves in a 1-0 double-overtime victory and was the sole reason his team won, the Ducks did not rely on their goalie Monday in Game 2.

Giguere was good, but the Ducks were at their maddening best, giving the Wild few opportunities, little breathing room and essentially taking the Xcel Energy crowd out of the game — all things the Wild usually do to opponents.

So what are the Wild to do when they're facing a clone?

"We have to be sharper with the puck," Lemaire said. "We have to keep moving because they will follow players around the net. You stand still, then you receive the check. You have to stay on the move all the time. That's how you create chances. We have to get some shots, stay on the move and try to make plays on the move. Use our defensemen more."

Brodeur stops 30, Devils even series

OTTAWA — Tired of hearing all the accolades directed at the Ottawa Senators, Scott Stevens and the New Jersey Devils responded with a near-perfect performance.

Martin Brodeur stopped 30 shots, and New Jersey's offense woke up, as the Devils beat the Senators 4-1 Tuesday night to even their NHL Eastern Conference finals series.

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2002 National Hockey League standings

Eastern Conference

Atlantic	
(2) New Jersey	108 pts
(4) Philadelphia	107 pts
(8) N.Y. Islanders	83 pts
N.Y. Rangers	78 pts
Pittsburgh	65 pts
Northeast	
(1) Ottawa	113 pts
(5) Toronto	98 pts
(7) Boston	87 pts
Montreal	77 pts
Buffalo	72 pts
Southeast	
(3) Tampa Bay	93 pts
(6) Washington	92 pts
Atlanta	74 pts
Florida	70 pts
Carolina	61 pts

Western Conference

Central	
(2) Detroit	110 pts
(5) St. Louis	99 pts
Chicago	79 pts
Nashville	74 pts
Columbus	69 pts
Northwest	
(3) Colorado	105 pts
(4) Vancouver	104 pts
(6) Minnesota	95 pts
(8) Edmonton	92 pts
Calgary	75 pts
Pacific	
(1) Dallas	111 pts
(7) Anaheim	95 pts
Los Angeles	78 pts
Phoenix	78 pts
San Jose	73 pts

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John Madden, Tommy Albelin, Jeff Friesen and Jay Pandolfo scored for the Devils, who erased questions whether they can contain the potent Senators and bounce back from Saturday's sloppy series-opening 3-2 overtime loss.

"It was looking pretty bleak from everybody after we lost the first game," Stevens said. "But we felt we wanted to come and get this game tonight. We battled hard and got a big team effort from everyone."

Game 3 of the best-of-seven series, that is tied 1-1, is Thursday night in New Jersey. The Devils are 6-0 this postseason at home.

Radek Bonk scored for the Senators, who appeared flat and allowed more than two goals for the first time in 12 games, ending an NHL playoff record streak they set in Game 1.

"They didn't beat us, they butt-kicked us," Senators forward Bryan Smolinski said. "We just looked a little sluggish, a little lethargic. No particular reason, they just outbattled us."

Roy says he's 90-percent sure on future

QUEBEC — Patrick Roy will wait until the end of the NHL playoffs before announcing whether he will retire.

The 37-year-old star for the Colorado Avalanche has spent 18 years in the league and is the NHL's winningest goaltender.

"My decision is 90 percent taken but there will be no announcement until the end of the playoffs," Roy told Radio-Canada television Monday night.

It was the first public comment by Roy on his future since Colorado was eliminated from the playoffs on April 22.

"If I want to come back, I still have some good hockey in me, so I have no problem doing that," he said. "I think I had a very good season for myself."

The four-time Stanley Cup champion recalled advice given by former teammate Ray Bourque.

"When he retired, Raymond Bourque told me that, physically, you feel certain things," Roy told the Quebec Le Soleil newspaper. "It hasn't happened to me yet."

Roy is a co-owner of the Quebec Remparts and has returned to his home city to watch the junior hockey team play in the Memorial Cup tournament beginning Saturday.

Roy aims to take a front-office job after he ends his career. Remparts general manager Raymond Bolduc has one year left on his contract and has said he will retire when it is up.

Roy's other business interests in his home province include part ownership in an annual women's tennis tournament.

Redden nursing strained left knee

OTTAWA — Ottawa Senators defenseman Wade Redden walked with a slight limp Wednesday and might miss Game 3 of the Eastern Conference finals because of a strained left knee.

Coach Jacques Martin listed Redden as day-to-day. The Senators play at the New Jersey Devils on Thursday.

"We'll know more tomorrow morning. If it feels good, I'll be going on it," Redden said shortly after having the knee evalu-

ated. "It's not that serious. It's a little tender when I move it.

"I'm confident I'll be back in this series before it's over."

The best-of-seven series is tied 1-1.

Redden said Wednesday's tests didn't find a ligament tear.

He leads Ottawa in ice time, playing more than 25 minutes a game this postseason. Redden tops the team's defensemen in points, with a goal and seven assists.

If Redden can't play, the Senators will turn to Shane Hnidy, who sat out the last 12 games.

"There's a certain amount of pressure for everyone," Hnidy said. "It's a challenge to yourself, and I want to be there for my teammates. I'm not going to go out there and play like Wade Redden, I'm going to play like Shane Hnidy and play my game."

Clarke: I don't think he wants to come back

VOORHEES, N.J. — Flyers goaltender Roman Cechmanek probably will not return to the team following a disappointing finish in the playoffs.

"I think it'll be very difficult to bring Roman back," general manager Bob Clarke said Monday. "I don't think he wants to come back. I think he feels it's not a good place for him."

Cechmanek signed a three-year contract extension worth \$3 million a season in January 2002. Clarke said he'll try to trade the 32-year-old player.

Cechmanek already has returned to his native Czech Republic for the summer, and Clarke isn't sure if the goalie still wants to play.

Clarke said the Flyers will pursue a new goaltender through a trade or free agency. Clarke expects backup Robert Esche to be a starter in the league, but isn't certain the 25-year-old goalie is ready.

Cechmanek was 33-15-10 with a 1.83 goals-against average in the regular season, helping the Flyers finish just one point behind first-place New Jersey in the Atlantic Division.

"You've got good ASVAB scores, so all we have to do is get you a waiver on you're on your way."



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By Kevin Kilgore

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