

U.S. Army Europe and 7th Army

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USAREUR participates in Army Ten-Miler

By Sgt. Aimee Millham, USAREUR Public Affairs Office

WASHINGTON D.C. (Oct. 7, 2007) – Three of U.S. Army Europe's Ten-Miler team members were among the first 100 in their gender division to complete the largest Ten-Miler in the U.S.

USAREUR's 12-member team was among 26,000 registered participants at the 23rd U.S. Army Ten-Miler in Washington D.C., Oct. 7.

USAREUR's male team leader Jonathan Dreher, 26 and former West Point track and cross country team member, was first over the finish line for USAREUR and 43rd overall, with a time of 56 minutes and 21 seconds.

Benjamin Martinelli, 28 and USAREUR band member, came in 71st with a time of 58:40, and Stephanie Feagin, 26, was the 39th woman over the finish line with a time of 68:07.

The entire team completed the race, despite unseasonably hot weather.

"When the sun came up everybody got a little hot and started slowing down a little bit," said Dreher, with the 302nd Military Intelligence Battalion in Heidelberg, Germany, adding that the last half of the race was harder than the first. Despite that, Dreher finished faster than he did in the USAREUR-team qualifying race.

Dreher's fellow team leader Feagin, assigned to the U.S. Army Health Clinic in Livorno, Italy, ran three minutes slower than she did in Germany, but she felt far from defeated.

"I got to finish with some of my teammates, and that's what it's all about," said Feagin, who placed 13th in the women's division of the U.S. Army Ten-Miler in 2004.

The race kicked off at 7:50 a.m., following opening ceremonies at the Pentagon.

Command Sgt. Maj. Iuniasolua Savusa, USAREUR command sergeant major, who attended the event along with the rest of the USAREUR command group, said the Army Ten-Miler is symbolic of the physical demands the service places on Soldiers.

"It's the job of every Soldier to stay as physically fit as they possibly can. Especially as we're fighting the Global War on Terror," he said, adding that not only is the event a physical challenge, "it's also one you look forward to because when you run here, you're also supporting the Soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan."

Every year, shadow runs of the Ten-Miler are held in places like Iraq, Afghanistan, Kuwait and Kosovo, in conjunction with the main event, the lead sponsors of which are the Association of the United States Army and KBR.

Other USAREUR team members include: Patrick S. Hicks, 16th Engineer Battalion, Giessen, Germany; Nathaniel Rayle, 18th Engineer Brigade, Heidelberg; Gustavo Lombera, 317th

Maintenance Company, Bamberg, Germany; Cesar Garcia, U.S. Army Health Clinic, Heidelberg; Sarah Kessler, 8th Finance Battalion, Baumholder, Germany; Amy Bowman, Heidelberg Dental Activity, Heidelberg; Laurel Farinacci, 222 Military Police Company, Mannheim, Germany; Elizabeth Gonzalez, 702nd Ordnance Company, Grafenwoehr, Germany; Brigida Sanchez, Armed Forces Network, Vicenza, Italy.

For more information and official results visit www.armytenmiler.com.

Cutlines:



U.S. Army Europe Ten-Miler team member Patrick S. Hicks, 25 and stationed at Giessen, Germany, with the 16th Engineer Battalion, finishes the 23rd U.S. Army Ten Miler in Washington, D.C., Oct. 7.



U.S. Army Europe Ten-Miler team member Gustavo Lombera, 30 and stationed at Bamberg, Germany, with the 317th Maintenance Company, finishes the 23rd U.S. Army Ten Miler in Washington, D.C., Oct. 7.



U.S. Army Europe Ten-Miler team member Jonathan Dreher, 26 and stationed in Heidelberg, Germany, with the 302nd Military Intelligence Battalion, is interviewed after placing 43rd with a 56:21 finish at the 23rd U.S. Army Ten-Miler in Washington, D.C., Oct. 7.



U.S. Army Europe Ten-Miler team member Stephanie Feagin, 26 and stationed in Livorno, Italy, with the U.S. Army Health Clinic Livorno, was the first USAREUR female to finish the 23rd U.S. Army Ten Miler in Washington, D.C., Oct. 7, with a time of 68:07.



Runners take off after a canon shot at the 23rd U.S. Army Ten Miler in Washington, D.C., Oct. 7, the largest Ten-Miler in the country with 26,000 registered participants.



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