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18th CSSB partners with Bundeswehr in 'Best Bavarian' competition

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BRANNENBURG, Germany – Soldiers from the 18th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 16th Sustainment Brigade, partnered with the German Bundeswehr Reservist Comando Oberpfalz to compete for the title of “Best Bavarian” in Brannenburg in southern Bavaria Jun. 4. The combined team competed against the top six Bavarian communities for a 10,000 euro prize which will be donated to charity.

The event consisted of a total of seven eight-person teams competing at four complex stations in which team members had to work together to complete challenging tasks.

Pfc. Ian Shelton, a cargo specialist with the 1st Inland Cargo Transportation Company, 18th CSSB was selected by his unit and was the only American on the team made up of five males and three females. Although Shelton was the only member of his battalion on the team, several of his comrades were there to offer support and cheer on Team Freihung.

Shelton said he was happy to be a part of this unique team and to be able to participate in the event.

Shelton's team represented the town of Freihung, located in the district of Amberg-Sulzbach. Norbert Bücherl, the town mayor, was on hand to support and cheer on his team.

Team Freihung was slightly ahead of a team from the town of Wertach in the scoring until the last station known as 'Teufelsrad' or Devils Wheel. There, Team Wertach came from behind and beat Team Freihung, but the German-American team still took home the second place title.

Bücherl said he enjoyed the competition which was intended to inspire teamwork and sportsmanship and that he was extremely proud of the partnership with his American counterparts with whom they conduct frequent training together.

CUTLINE



110604-A-LQ819-156: Pfc. Ian Shelton, a cargo specialist with the 1st Inland Cargo Transportation Company, 18th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, races to get a ball into a basket at the 'Teufelsrad' or Devils Wheel, during the final round of the Bavaria's Best Bavarian competition June 4, in Brannenburg, Germany. The 18th CSSB partnered with the German Bundeswehr Reservist Comando Oberpfalz and represented the town of Freihung for the competition. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Lynne Lantin, 16th Sust. Bde. Public Affairs)