



FREEDOM WATCH



October 21, 2002

Published in the interest of those serving in Operation Enduring Freedom

Bagram, Afghanistan

News briefs

(Compiled from CNN.com)

Police reach out to sniper

ROCKVILLE, Md. — Sources close to the investigation of the D.C.-area sniper shootings say a statement made Sunday evening by the head of the sniper task force was an attempt to communicate with the killer. “To the person who left us a message at the Ponderosa last night, you gave us a telephone number. We do want to talk to you. Call us at the number you provided,” said Montgomery County Police Chief Charles Moose at a brief news conference Sunday night. The Montgomery County Police Department is the lead agency in the sniper investigation, because the first five shootings occurred there.

Search for missing U.S. aviators ends

POINT SUR, Calif. — The U.S. Coast Guard called off its search Saturday for four U.S. Navy of-

See **BRIEFS**, Page 3

'We have not forgotten you'



Photo by Sgt. Eric Barker

Williams is bombarded by autograph seekers during a visit to the Kandahar Airfield hangar.

Robin Williams visits Afghanistan troops

Comedian takes act to Bagram Air Base

Story & photo by Spc. Alfredo Jimenez Jr.
28th Public Affairs Detachment

“Good morning, Bagram!”

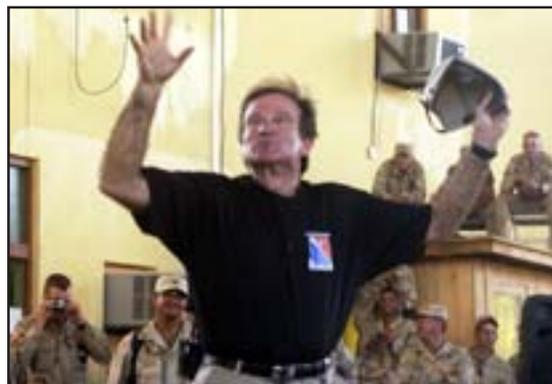
With this echoing throughout the hangar, soldiers couldn't help but re-

spond with boisterous laughter because no matter where Robin Williams shows up, he really knows how to incite a crowd.

Williams carries on with his impromptu show.

The image of soldiers laughing at one of Williams' outrageous performances is so paradoxical, even that

See **VISIT**, Page 2



Comedian Robin Williams treats soldiers to an impromptu show at Bagram Air Base.

KAF service members treated to laughs, autographs

Story & photo by Sgt. Eric Barker
300th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan - Friday, Robin Williams, comedian, TV star, movie star, comedy

recording artist, theater star, visited “Operation Enduring Freedom” troops at Kandahar Airfield on a United Services Organization-sponsored visit.

He spent most of the day touring the installa-

tion and interacting with service members.

“Basically, I did not want people to forget the troops in Afghanistan and, at the same time, I wanted troops to know the people at home still care about them,” Williams

said.

Although this is his first time visiting troops with the USO, he has a history of giving and has devoted much of his en-

See **WILLIAMS**, Page 2

VISIT, from Page 1

alone should bring a smirk. But thanks to the USO and Williams' unyielding desire to visit troops in Afghanistan, the picture is simply beautiful.

"It was important for me to come here because I wanted to let (the soldiers) know we haven't forgotten (them)," Williams said. "The last month, the focus has been on Iraq and people need to know there's still a war going on here, and it's an important one."

The Oscar-winning comedian made sure his Thursday and Friday visit to the war-torn country was as memorable as some

of his movies.

He appeared at the Morale, Welfare and Recreation building with so much energy, the patient, battle-tested soldiers didn't mind the extreme hot conditions.

"I thought he was great," said Spc. Bob Melone, 772nd Military Police Company from Taunton, Massachusetts. "He was so funny and I appreciate him coming out here, despite the dusty circumstances."

"He did a great job," said Staff Sgt. Erik Mileski, 351st Ordnance Company from Union Town, Pennsylvania. "The show seemed to really lift everybody's spirits."

After the MWR show, Williams stood outside to sign autographs and posed for photographs.

The building held a capacity crowd, so he was able to greet a lot of people.

"It was amazing meeting all types of people here," Williams said. "I met a husband-wife team who took pictures with me three times because their (stubborn) camera wouldn't work. I mean, there are incredible combinations of people working together doing amazing things."

Williams also ate at the Bagram's newly opened north dining facility, visited the Post Exchange and was deeply moved when he stopped by the hospital.



Williams signs autographs outside of the Morale, Welfare and Recreation building at Bagram.

"You have an amazing hospital here," Williams said. "I went there and saw how you are taking care of people with mine injuries, including a little boy who was literally put together. It's hard, but you are doing an extraordinary job."

Although his trip was

brief, the comedian said it was a great visit and hopes to come back with a small number of friends.

"I want to say I'll be back," he said. "I'm sorry if I couldn't meet everybody, but it'll be great to bring back a few comics and split them up and do a couple of simultaneous shows."

WILLIAMS, from Page 1

ergy doing work for charities such as for "Comic Relief," an annual benefit to aid the homeless.

"I always wanted to come over, but things never worked out before," said Williams. "Iraq has been getting a lot of the focus lately. I wanted people know that we already have soldiers at war doing their jobs in Afghanistan. The Taliban and Al-Qaeda threat is still illuminating."

Anyone who has ever watched Robin Williams knows of his great talent. Some of his other major talents are impersonation, doing strange voices and improvisation. All these talents were put to work

during his visit with troops, as he mimicked everything from Hispanic accents to actor Jack Nicholson.

"I just came to give people a good laugh and say 'hey,'" explained Williams. "I was very impressed with the extraordinary people here – the men who left wives behind, the women who left their families and the Reservists who left jobs and families."

A favorite movie of Williams for troops is "Good Morning, Vietnam" (1987), in which he gave a comic performance as real-life U.S. forces' disc jockey Adrian Cronauer. The film established him as a screen star and earned him the first of three Oscar nominations.



Photo by Sgt. Eric C. Barker

Williams hams it up for a photo with the troops.

"We were watching one of his movies in the tent when we found out he was coming," said Spc. Valerie Day, chemical equipment repair, 488th Quartermaster Company. "I was so excited. I have been watching his movies since I was little. He has always been an idol of mine."

Williams tirelessly shook hands, took pictures and signed every autograph requested. A 50-minute autograph session, scheduled at the dining facility, turned into four hours, because a selfless Williams refused to leave until every soldier got his turn with him.

"It was worth the

wait. It totally boosted my morale. This place can be somewhat depressing to an extent, being so far from home," Day said. "Meeting Robin makes you realize the importance of morale. I got a chance to meet someone in KAF I never would have met otherwise."

Service-members from all branches lined up all day to meet Williams.

"With all the diverse services here, there is a community within a lot of little communities," Williams said. "Different services that share a unity of purpose and all work together to accomplish the same goal."

Williams continued his USO tour with a trip to Rome.

BRIEFS, from Page 1

HIND SIGHT

1529

The Pope names Henry VIII of England Defender of the Faith after defending the seven sacraments against Luther.

1837

Under a flag of truce during peace talks, U.S. troops siege the Indian Seminole Chief Osceola in Florida.

1872

The U.S. Naval Academy admits John H. Conyers, the first African American to be accepted.

1917

The first U.S. troops enter the front lines at Sommervillier under French command.

1942

Eight American and British officers land from a submarine on an Algerian beach to take measure of Vichy French to the Operation Torch landings.

Officers missing since their two fighter jets collided during a combat exercise Friday. The search ended at 6:30 p.m. because of sea and weather conditions, and because about 33 hours had passed since the pilots were reported missing, according to Coast Guard spokesman Matt Juillerat. The Navy identified the missing officers as Lt. Stephen R. Nevarez, 31, a weapons systems officer from New Orleans; Lt. Joel A. Korkowski, 30, a pilot from Phoenix, Ariz.; Lt. Matthew S. Shubzda, 27, a pilot from Dallas; and Lt. Stephen N. Benson, 26, a weapons system officer from Virginia Beach, Va.

U.S.: N. Korea arms pact effectively dead

WASHINGTON — The White House considers a 1994 agreement in which the United States provides energy assistance to North Korea in exchange for that country freezing its nuclear weapons program effectively dead, senior Bush administration officials said Sunday. The acknowledgment comes after North Korea admitted to a top U.S. diplomat two weeks ago that it was working on a secret nuclear weapons program. The most immediate impact of the U.S. withdrawal would be to stop the annual shipment of 500,000 tons of fuel oil from the United States to North Korea.

Local weather

TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER REPORT:

	<i>Today</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>
Bagram:	<i>Thunderstorms</i> H: 73F L: 54F	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 75F L: 45F
Kandahar:	<i>Dusty</i> H: 82F L: 54F	<i>Haze</i> H: 86F L: 54F
Kabul:	<i>Thunderstorms</i> H: 73F L: 54F	<i>Mostly clear</i> H: 70F L: 39F
Uzbekistan:	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 78F L: 50F	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 75F L: 50F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

FREEDOM WATCH

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COALITIONSPORTSZONE

The Day in Sports

(Compiled from ESPN.com)

Faulk, Rams in top form against Seattle

ST. LOUIS— Two games of handing the ball off to Marshall Faulk makes St. Louis Rams quarterback Marc Bulger think his teammate belongs in the Hall of Fame right now.

“They should put him in already, the first active player,” Bulger said Sunday after Faulk ran for 183 yards and scored four touchdowns in the Rams’ 37-20 victory over Seattle. “He’s like Superman out there. I’m just glad he’s on our side.”

The Rams reached the 30-point mark for the first time this season behind Faulk’s fifth career four-touchdown game, as well as another consistent performance from the third-string Bulger.

Harrington leads Lions to OT victory

DETROIT— The Detroit Lions have won as many games in six weeks as they did all of last season. They still don’t think anybody believes in them.

Jason Hanson's 48-yard field goal with 10:18 left in overtime gave Detroit a 23-20 win Sunday over the Chicago Bears, who have lost four straight.

“I don’t think it silences a lot of people, I really don’t,” said James Stewart, who ran for a career-high 172 yards and two touchdowns on 32 carries. “I really think people will still look at us as being on the bottom of the league. I really don’t think this win makes people change their minds about us, but we can’t worry about that.”

Bills' defense comes up big against Lucas

MIAMI— The Buffalo Bills had the better quarterback, which was no surprise. They also had the better defense, which was a shock.

Taking advantage of an erratic effort by Miami backup Ray Lucas, the Bills came up with four interceptions — their first this season — and recovered two fumbles to beat the Dolphins 23-10 Sunday.

Nate Clements tied a team record with three interceptions for the Bills, who entered the game last in the NFL with four takeaways.

Vick does it all for Falcons in rout

ATLANTA- Michael Vick feigned a pass to escape one defender, got past another by breaking a tackle and tiptoed down the sideline for a 44-yard touchdown on his final play of the day.

“It’s amazing,” Vick said, shaking his head. “I just get up after some plays and say, ‘Oh, man, I can’t wait to see that one on film.’”

In a virtuoso one-man performance, Vick totaled 297 yards running and throwing to lead the Atlanta Falcons past the feeble Carolina Panthers 30-0 on Sunday.

2002 National Football League standings

American Football Conference

East

Miami	5-2	.714
Buffalo	4-3	.571
N.England	3-3	.500
N.Y. Jets	2-4	.333

North

Baltimore	3-3	.500
Cleveland	3-4	.429
Pittsburgh	2-3	.400
Cincinnati	0-6	.000

South

Indianapolis	4-1	.800
Jacksonville	3-3	.500
Tennessee	2-4	.333
Houston	1-5	.167

West

San Diego	6-1	.857
Denver	5-2	.714
Oakland	4-2	.667
Kansas City	3-4	.429

National Football Conference

East

Philadelphia	4-2	.667
N.Y. Giants	3-3	.500
Dallas	3-4	.429
Washington	2-4	.333

North

Green Bay	6-1	.857
Chicago	2-4	.333
Detroit	2-4	.333
Minnesota	1-5	.167

South

New Orleans	6-1	.857
Tampa Bay	5-2	.714
Atlanta	3-3	.500
Carolina	3-4	.429

West

San Francisco	4-2	.667
Arizona	4-2	.667
St. Louis	2-5	.286
Seattle	1-5	.167

Did you know ...

Even facing an extreme groundball pitcher with a good defense and an inappropriately chosen groundout in waiting behind him, there are eight situations where the opposing team should start thinking about walking Bonds, considering who's on base, who's coming up, and particularly their pitcher's ability to get a groundball out from Santiago.

One out, bases empty: walking Bonds hurts the team by a quarter-run (+.283), but sets up the double play Two outs, bases empty: walking causes a very small increase in run expectation +.097, sets up first-or-second force Two outs, man on first: walking increases run expectation +.177, but sets up force at first-second-third Two outs, man on second or third: +.171 or +.172, sets up force at first-second-third Two outs, two men on: from +.314 to +.372, depending on the exact situation, but sets up the force at any base and also trades home-run-tastic Bonds for the much-less lethal Santiago. This is strictly damage control when a team can afford giving up a run to a cheap Santiago hit, but not three on a Bonds blast. Don't try this at home.

(by Derek Zumsteg, special to ESPN.com)

2002 World Series

San Francisco vs. Anaheim

Today

San Francisco 4, Anaheim 3, Giants lead 1-0

Sunday

Anaheim 11, San Francisco 10, Series tied 1-1

Tuesday

Anaheim at San Francisco

Wednesday

Anaheim at San Francisco

Thursday

Anaheim at San Francisco

Saturday

San Francisco at Anaheim, if necessary

Oct. 27

San Francisco at Anaheim, if necessary



Salmon helps Angels win slugfest with Giants; Bonds homers again

ANAHEIM, Calif. — Tim Salmon also waited a long time for his World Series moment.

Salmon hit his second homer of the game, a tiebreaking, two-run shot with two outs in the eighth inning that lifted the Anaheim Angels over the San Francisco Giants 11-10 Sunday night, ending a thrilling, seesaw game and evening the Series at 1-all.

No active player in the majors had gone longer than Salmon — 1,388 games — without reaching the postseason until this year. Yet it had been Barry Bonds' absence from the Series that had attracted all the attention — until Salmon connected off Felix Rodriguez to give the Angels their first-ever World Series win.

"I think I made the most of my opportunities. It was awesome," Salmon said. "The way the game went back-and-forth was unbelievable.

"We knew there was going to be a hero in the dugout," he said, "and tonight it was me."

Much of the credit belonged to Francisco Rodriguez, too. The 20-year-old rookie sensation pitched three perfect innings and got the victory, making him 5-0 in the postseason. He tied Randy Johnson's record set last year for wins in a single postseason.



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By Kevin Kilgore

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