

Excess medical supplies provide relief

Story and photos by Spc. Kelly Hunt
4th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan – An excess of medical supplies and medications supplemented a shortage faced by Afghan hospitals and clinics as American troops delivered nearly \$100,000 worth of medical supplies Tuesday to the surrounding areas.

The excess supplies would normally be discarded, but the need for the same supplies in neighboring communities was recognized just in time, putting a true meaning to the saying “one man’s trash is another man’s treasure.”

“We found access expendable supplies and medications that we didn’t need for the hospital and for any of our maneuver elements,” said Col. Dalton Diamond, Combined Joint Civil Military Operations Task Force surgeon explaining how the idea for this humanitarian aid mission began. “This is the first time that we’ve (donated) excess medical supplies.”

Items such as injectable antibiotics, sterile surgical gloves, syringes and bandages were some of the supplies donated to the hospitals and are items that local hospital and clinic personnel have a hard time acquiring.

“I visited a couple of their clinics where their dressing rooms had nothing (and) I didn’t want to let this material go to waste,” said Diamond. “The (supplies) that we take for granted, Band Aids and



Spc. David Martinez, CJCMOTF Surgeon Cell, distributes excess medical supplies gathered by troops to personnel from the Provincial Hospital in Kapisa Tuesday during a humanitarian aid mission.

See **EXCESS**, Page 4

Airmen keep things moving in Manas

Story and photo by Sgt. Greg Heath
4th Public Affairs Detachment

MANAS, Kyrgyzstan – A few hundred kilometers north of Afghanistan, in the small country of Kyrgyzstan, is Manas Air Base, where airmen are doing their

part to ensure coalition service members can maintain the fight on the frontlines of the war on terrorism.

Airmen of the 376th Expeditionary Air Wing work 24-hour operations, seven-days a week, maintaining the vital flow of service members, equipment and supplies out of Manas, which is the primary hub in

support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

“We make sure they have what they need to keep up the fight down there, so there’s no stopping here,” said Senior Master Sgt. Ian Palmer, superintendent

See **MANAS**, Page 4

World News (Compiled from CNN.com)



U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell and L. Paul Bremer, the U.S. civilian administrator for Iraq, talk at a session of the International Donors' Conference in Madrid on Thursday.

Iraqi official says limited help won't be forgotten

MADRID, Spain – A top Iraqi official attending an international conference on raising funds to rebuild Iraq warned Thursday that France and Germany's limited donations would not be forgotten.

Ayad Allawi, the current head of Iraq's U.S.-appointed governing council, said he hoped German and French officials would reconsider their decision not to boost their contributions beyond funds already pledged through the European Union.

"As far as Germany and France are concerned, really, this was a regrettable position they had," Allawi said. "I don't think the Iraqis are going to forget easily that in the hour of need, those countries wanted to neglect Iraq."

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan — also attending the conference — urged the international community to give billions of dollars to rebuild the nation, saying reconstruction cannot wait until a sovereign Iraqi government is established.

"The people of Iraq have a hard road ahead of them, filled with both risk and opportunity," Annan said at the opening of the donors' conference for Iraq in Madrid, Spain. "Let us not leave them to travel that road alone."

Some countries have balked at funding programs in post-war Iraq, citing the go-it-alone approach taken by the United States and Brit-

ain ahead of the conflict.

Germany, France and Russia — the chief opponents of war before the U.S. invasion — sent lower level officials to the conference. Those countries have been opposed to what they see as too much U.S. control of the reconstruction process.

The United States has committed \$20 billion to the effort. Spanish Economy Minister Rodrigo Rato said last Friday he hoped \$15 billion to \$20 billion would be raised, but Foreign Minister Ana Palacio told *CNN* last week that as little as \$6 billion could be raised for a trust fund that the World Bank, United Nations and Iraqi authorities would manage.



Accidents in Russian mines are common. Eleven died in an explosion at this Siberian mine in June.

Russian miners trapped

ROSTOV-ON-DON, Russia – Water began seeping into a mine in southern Russia, trapping 49 miners about 800 meters (2625 feet) underground Thursday, emergency officials said.

The miners were working in the Zapadnaya mine in Shakty in the Rostov-on-Don region, about 1,000 kilometers (600 miles) south of Moscow, when the accident happened, said Andrei Somishchenko, duty officer at the Emergency Situations Ministry's southern office.

He said that all of the mine's electrical systems had shut down, including the platform that lifts the workers out of the mine.

A team of 38 rescuers were on the site, trying to reach the men. Officials said they were still not sure what had caused the water seepage.

Accidents are common in the Russian coal industry, and miners stage frequent protests over wage delays and declining safety standards. According to the Independent Coal Miners' Union, 68 miners were killed on the job last year and 98 in 2001.



Many tourist attractions are expected to close across Italy.

Italy braces for strike

ROME, Italy – Italy braced for a general strike Friday that will force scores of flights to be canceled, trains and buses to be idled and post offices and schools to be closed across the country.

The four-hour walkout, called by Italy's three largest and most powerful unions, was expected to bring the country to a near standstill. It was called to protest Premier Silvio Berlusconi's plans to reform the pension system.

The strike comes about a decade after one million people took to the streets to protest another attempt at reforming pensions taken by Berlusconi during his first term in office. His government fell soon thereafter.

Schools, universities and post offices were scheduled to be closed the entire day, while banks and production lines at top Italian companies such as auto giant FIAT were expected to be idled for half the day.

Hospitals said they would only guarantee emergency services. Many museums and shops were also expected to close across the country, while some movie theaters said they would shut down for late shows.

Flagship airline Alitalia said it would cancel 155 domestic and international flights scheduled between 12:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. (1030 GMT to 1430 GMT). No intercontinental flights were canceled. Another 124 flights would be delayed or rerouted, Alitalia said.

The Italian railway company said about half of its trains would be idled because of the strike, which for the train sector starts at 9 a.m. (0700 GMT). Local transport would also be affected, with buses, subways and trams idled across the country with times varying from place to place.

ANA English as a Second Language program ahead of schedule

The English as a Second Language (ESL) program is an important program for Afghan National Army officers. The program contributes directly to the professional standards of the officer corps. Part of the International Military Education and Training (IMET) strategy is to prepare qualified ANA officers to become ESL program instructors.

Mr. Clayton Leishman, Defense Language Institute English Language Center (DLIELC) instructor explained the normal time frame at which these programs transition to host nation instructors is typically two years. The ANA ESL program, which began just over three months ago, will have its first host nation instructor, ANA Capt. Habiburahman, next spring.

Habiburahman, a 32-year-old Pashtun from Paktia Province, and currently an ESL student, is scheduled to attend the Defense Language Institute (DLI) Basic American Language Instructor Course (BALIC) at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Texas, this fall. When he returns after the six-month course, he will become the first ANA ESL instructor.

Habiburahman achieved the highest placement score in the program and has clearly demonstrated both high professional standards and a talent for teaching. Based on this observation and his overall assessment of the program, Mr. Leishman decided to move the program forward – well ahead of schedule.

These programs, he explained, take time to develop and careful consideration must be given to the selection of the host nation instructors to ensure consistent quality and, most importantly, continuity. When told he was selected to attend the BALIC course and become an ESL instructor, Habiburahman was both excited and honored. He said his wife and four children are very proud of his accomplishments and he feels he is making a significant contribution to his family and his country.

The future of the ANA, and subsequently the stability of Afghanistan, depends on many factors. Professional dedicated leaders like Habiburahman play a key role in this process and will, with the Coalition's continued assistance, undoubtedly make a lasting impact on the ANA, the Afghan people, and the nation.

(Information provided by CJTF 180 press release.)

Bagram Air Base MWR presents

“Ballistic”

1530Z at the MWR Building:

Tasked with destroying each other, an FBI agent and a rogue NSA agent soon discover that there's a much bigger enemy at work.

Tomorrow's movie: “High Crimes”



Local weather

TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER FORECAST:

	Today	Saturday
Bagram:	Partly Cloudy H: 75F L: 43F	Mostly Clear H: 75F L: 43F
Kandahar:	Dusty H: 82F L: 50F	Dusty H: 82F L: 50F
Kabul:	Partly Cloudy H: 75F L: 43F	Mostly Clear H: 75F L: 43F
Uzbekistan:	Partly Cloudy H: 79F L: 50F	Partly Cloudy H: 80F L: 52F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

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EXCESS, from Page 1

things like that, they just don't have."

The humanitarian aid was donated to the provincial hospital in Kapisa and the regional hospital in Charikar where it is to be disseminated throughout hospitals and clinics within the areas in the near future, said Staff Sgt. Hartjen, Parwan Province Civil Affairs Team A, 407th CA Battalion.

"It'll have nothing but a positive affect," he said about the donation. "Around the area they have short supply. It's either feast or famine and most of the time it's famine."

The donations made to the provincial hospital in Kapisa are scheduled to reach more than 12 clinics in the area and supplies given to the regional hospital in Charikar are expected to provide aid to 12 clinics, said Hartjen.

"They were very excited," he said. "They already get supplies from some of the NGO's (non-government organizations), but it's sporadic.

"It's nice to lend out a helping hand to the area with the limited supplies," said Hartjen. "To me it's very exciting because this helps out the infrastructure of the country (and) is one of the things that they are lacking, as far as money and funds for medical supplies, (so) to be able to help out this way is tremendous.



Staff Sgt. Kirk Hill, CJCMOTF, (left), and 2nd Lt. Quentin Lightbourn, Sanitarian Engineer, CJCMOTF, unload medical supplies to the waiting hands of local nationals during a humanitarian aid delivery to the Regional Hospital in Charikar Tuesday.

"It's nice to say that we've added our piece to (this mission)," said Hartjen. "It's one of the best things we've been able to accomplish in just one day's time."

MANAS, from Page 1

of the Air Terminal Operations Center, 60th/82nd Airport Support Squadron.

When anything arrives at Manas from overseas, the airmen transfer it from the large cargo planes to the C-130 Hercules

aircraft that take everything downrange.

The air base, which shares space with the host nation's airport, has missions going out everyday at every hour, mostly to Bagram and Khandahar, where the cargo is then redistributed throughout the various outposts in Afghanistan.



Airmen unload freight from a C-130 Hercules aircraft at Manas Air Base in the country of Kyrgyzstan. Manas is the main hub for moving personnel and logistical support for Operation Enduring Freedom.

Along with sending vital supplies downrange, the airmen also take pride in their handling of their most precious cargo, the service members and civilians going in and out of theater.

"Part of our job is customer service," said Palmer, about everybody who comes through here is a customer and we want happy customers."

Since they've been here about four months, they've handled more than 15,000 passengers, Palmer added.

For Air Force Staff Sgt. Charles Case, who works in the ATOC passenger terminal, taking care of service members coming out of Afghanistan is the best part of the job.

"I like to make the passengers as comfortable as I can, make them feel like they're in a good place where they can relax and unwind," Case said.

Whether moving troops or sending them supplies downrange, the airmen are just proud to take care of service members, said Palmer.

"It gives us a good feeling," Palmer said. "Everyone wants to do their part in the war on terrorism, and this is our way of doing our part."



Coalition Sports Zone

(Compiled from ESPN.com)

Slumping Soriano, injured Giambi out of lineup



Alfonso Soriano has already set a postseason record with 25 strikeouts in 67 at-bats.

MIAMI—Slumping second baseman Alfonso Soriano and injured first baseman Jason Giambi were benched by New York Yankees manager Joe Torre for Game 5 of the World Series in a major lineup shakeup Thursday night.

Derek Jeter moved into the lead-off spot for Soriano, and backup Enrique

Wilson took over in the field for the two-time All-Star starter. About one hour before gametime, the Yankees said Nick Johnson would take over for Giambi, a former AL MVP whose ailing left knee got worse when he played the field in Games 3 and 4.

“I don’t feel happy, but I know I’ve been struggling,” Soriano said. “It’s hard for me because I like to play every day. I hope I’ll get a chance as a pinch hitter, who knows?”

“I think I swing at bad pitches, that’s the problem. It’s tough to recognize the pitches because it’s a different league. I think I try to do too much,” he said.

With the shifts, Hideki Matsui moved into the cleanup spot. The Series was tied at 2 going into Game 5.

Soriano has already set a postseason record with 25 strikeouts in 67 at-bats. He was hitting only .167 (3-for-18) with one homer, two RBIs and eight strikeouts in four games against the Florida Marlins.

No. 3 Hokies shocked by West Virginia

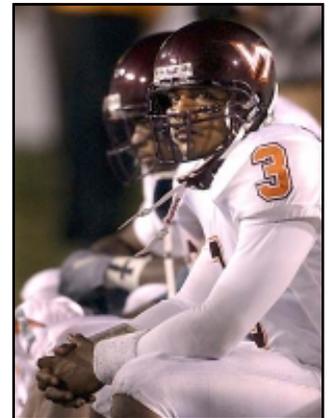
MORGANTOWN, W.Va.—Virginia Tech looked practically unbeatable in six blowout wins during the first half of the season.

The start of the second part was another matter, and now the third-ranked Hokies have a huge cloud over their national title hopes.

Quincy Wilson rushed for a season-high 178 yards and West Virginia looked dominant Wednesday night, beating Virginia Tech 28-7.

“A lot of people were talking about Miami and Virginia Tech,” said West Virginia coach Rich Rodriguez. “Somehow everybody forgot about West Virginia.”

Virginia Tech fell down 14 points early and never crossed midfield in the second half in suffering its worst defeat since a 38-7 setback to Pittsburgh on Nov. 3, 2001. “They took it to us,” Virginia Tech coach Frank Beamer said.



Bryan Randall had a rough night, fumbling four times and throwing three picks as Virginia Tech failed to score an offensive touchdown.

Bryant to play in exhibition vs. Clippers

EL SEGUNDO, Calif—Kobe Bryant said he is “not nervous at all” on the eve of his first game since being ordered to stand trial for sexual assault and undergoing offseason knee surgery.

“It’s my eighth year in the league—too many years in the league to be nervous,” the Los Angeles Lakers all-star guard said after practice Wednesday. Coach Phil Jackson said he plans to start Bryant in the exhibition game against the Los Angeles Clippers in Anaheim and play him in “eight to nine-minute bursts.”

“There’s a natural time-out in the first quarter, and I’ll take him out of the game and see how he does in the second session in the first half and go from there,” Jackson said.

It will also be the first time Bryant will play with Karl Malone and Gary Payton, free agents who signed with the staff during the summer. With center Shaquille O’Neal, it gives the Lakers four potential future Hall of Fame members.

“They need to play together,” Jackson said.

Bryant said his goal for the game is “to build the rhythm as a unit.”

He said he agreed with Derek Fisher’s assessment that he was at 75 percent of his best level. Bryant said his trainer told him he would not be 100 percent until December.

On Monday, Bryant was ordered to stand trial for sexual assault. A 19-year-old Eagle, Colo., hotel employee alleges he sexually assaulted her in his room on July 1. Bryant claims they had consensual sex.

Bryant faces a potential life prison term if he is convicted. His next court appearance is Nov. 10.

Sports on local Armed Forces Network TV

Saturday’s schedule (AFN Sports)

- ❖ Houston Rockets @ San Antonio Spurs (live) 0000Z, 0430L
- ❖ Sacramento Kings vs LA Lakers (live) 0230Z, 0700L
- ❖ Dallas Stars @ Detroit Red Wings (tape delayed) 0700Z, 1130L
- ❖ NFL Magazine presented by Sears (tape delayed) 1130Z, 1600L
- ❖ Sacramento Kings vs LA Lakers (tape delayed) 1130Z, 1600L
- ❖ Horse Racing: Wire to Wire (tape delayed) 1330Z, 1800L
- ❖ College Football Pregame (live) 1430Z, 1900L
- ❖ Big XII: Texas Tech @ Missouri (live) 1630Z, 2100L

Sunday’s schedule (AFN Sports)

- ❖ USC @ Washington (live) 1930Z, 0000L
- ❖ Auburn @ LSU (live) 2345Z, 0415L
- ❖ PGA Tour: Funai Classic (tape delayed) 0400Z, 0830L
- ❖ NASCAR: Aaron’s 312 (tape delayed) 0730Z, 1130L
- ❖ Marlins @ Yankees (game 6 if necessary) (tape delayed) 1000Z, 1430L
- ❖ Oklahoma @ Colorado (if game 6 not necessary) (tape delayed) 1500Z, 1930L
- ❖ Baseball Tonight - World Series - Yankee Stadium (tape delayed) 1400Z, 1830L

Afghanistan Hot Topics



(Compiled by CJTF-180 Public Affairs)

16 Taliban arrested in Afghanistan sweep

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan (*AP*) – Sixteen Taliban have been arrested in southern Afghanistan in a sweep by 1,000 Afghan fighters and more than 300 U.S.-led coalition troops hunting for leaders of the former regime, a local commander said Thursday.

Tanks and helicopters from the anti-terror coalition are also deployed in the search in the districts of Dai Chopan, Atghar, Shinkay and Arghandab, said Commander Habibullah Jan. There were no known casualties on either side, he said.

The operation began six days ago, Jan said.

Along with the captives, 14 Kalashnikovs, six rifles and two rockets were seized. The 16 captives were being held in Kandahar prison, he said.

Local officials have claimed that the same operation over the weekend also netted a senior Taliban commander, Mullah Janan, along with eight of his accomplices. However, the U.S. military has said Janan was captured near Deh Rawod in the central province of Uruzgan.

“We are trying to capture other big Taliban figures,” Jan said of the continuing operations.

In recent weeks, Taliban insurgents are believed to have stepped up attacks against government troops, aid workers and U.S.-led coalition forces, mainly in southern and eastern Afghanistan.

Rumsfeld sees need to realign military fight

By Tom Shanker

WASHINGTON (*New York Times*) – Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld has told military commanders that the Pentagon is ill suited to combat terrorism and suggested that a new, more agile security agency may be needed to overcome the global threat.

“It is not possible to change DoD. fast enough to successfully fight the global war on terror,” Mr. Rumsfeld said in a memo dated Oct. 16, using initials for Department of Defense. “An alternative might be to try to fashion a new institution, either within DoD. or elsewhere — one that seamlessly focuses the capabilities of several departments and agencies on this key problem.”

In an unusually blunt assessment of the campaign against terrorism, Mr. Rumsfeld wrote, “We are having mixed results with al Qaeda, although we have put considerable pressure on them — nonetheless, a great many remain at large.”

In the memo, published Wednesday in *USA Today*, he also said the United States, while successful in capturing many top Iraqi leaders, “has made somewhat slower progress tracking down the Taliban,” who had offered sanctuary to al Qaeda before 9/11.

Of the two major wars fought on his watch — conflicts whose victories have evolved into complicated, bloody peacekeeping and reconstruction missions — Mr. Rumsfeld wrote, “It is pretty clear that the coalition can win in Afghanistan and Iraq in one way or another, but it will be a long, hard slog.”

Peace hangs in the balance in Afghanistan

By Vanessa Gezari

BALKH, Afghanistan (*Chicago Tribune*) – There are no movies playing at the cinema in Balkh. Lean men with guns roam the gallery where the film projectors should be, surveying the neighborhood from sandbagged lookout posts.

A hundred yards away, soldiers from a different faction train their weapons on the men in the cinema. Their base is a quiet green compound where anti-aircraft guns sit moldering in the tall grass and a flatbed truck, captured from the deposed Taliban and mounted with canons, awaits action.

Between the two military bases—the cinema captured recently by Jamiat-e-Islami and the compound held by Junbish-e-Milli—a small hospital struggles to function.

When the factions clashed earlier this month in some of the fiercest fighting in northern Afghanistan since the Taliban fell in 2001, a shell ruptured the hospital’s water tank. Most patients don’t dare stay overnight.

“We don’t need these fighters, we don’t want any of them to be here,” said Jamal Abdul Nasser, head of nursing at the Health Training Center Hospital of Balkh. “For 25 years, what did guns do for Afghanistan? Nothing.”

“The next time you commandeer a vehicle try to get something a little more tactical.”



kevin_kilgore@hotmail.com

By Kevin Kilgore

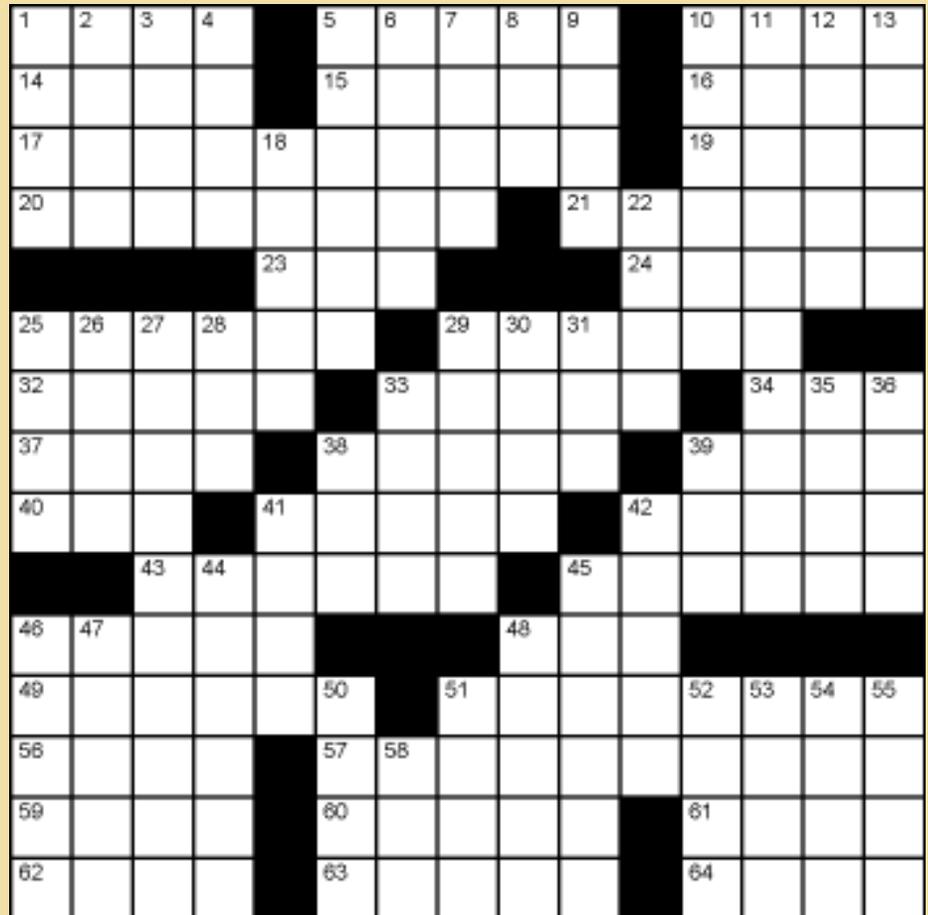
Laugh Support

Slippery Crossword

(Courtesy of QUIZLAND.com)

Across

- 1 Cooperstown's Aaron
- 5 Car takebacks
- 10 Herring kin
- 14 Indy's Luyendyk
- 15 Where boxers box
- 16 Ran like the dickens
- 17 Wedding dance
- 19 Steam up
- 20 Port of South Australia
- 21 Two-__ (Corvette, e.g.)
- 23 "Fever" singer
- 24 "Gypsy" composer Jule
- 25 Sweater material
- 29 Volkswagen model
- 32 Worth or Bordoni
- 33 Young Montague
- 34 Bran source
- 37 Bivouac shelter
- 38 Bus rider's buy
- 39 Squeakers
- 40 Whole bunch
- 41 Assumed as fact
- 42 "Understand?"
- 43 "Old __" (Disney classic)
- 45 Was in the game
- 46 Syrup source
- 48 Mexican Mrs.
- 49 Indian and Arctic
- 51 Huge woman
- 56 Litter castoff, often
- 57 Convenient
- 59 "Rule, Britannia" composer
- 60 Rudimentary seed
- 61 Printer's primary color
- 62 Produces eggs
- 63 Stun gun
- 64 Box-office total



- 4 Boat's bottom
- 5 Thrusting sword
- 6 Whittle away
- 7 Toy dog, for short
- 8 Latish lunchtime
- 9 Simon __
- 10 Rock layers
- 11 Pretentious
- 12 "Over the Rainbow" composer Harold
- 13 Plow maker John
- 18 Connecticut Ivy Leaguer
- 22 Old U.S. gas brand
- 25 Catcher's need
- 26 Droxie lookalike
- 27 Chicken Little's friend
- 28 Critter in a colony
- 29 Game for bluffers
- 30 "So be it"
- 31 6-yr. term holder
- 33 Wander about
- 35 High point
- 36 Irrate, with "off"
- 38 Up to, informally
- 39 __ culpa
- 41 Secluded valley
- 42 Pancreas or thyroid
- 44 Tickles pink
- 45 It ends with 30-Down
- 46 Fable finale
- 47 Legend automaker
- 48 Move like a crab
- 50 Took a photo of
- 51 Bearded antelopes
- 52 Diplomat's forte
- 53 Irish New Ager
- 54 Mt. Rushmore's state
- 55 January 1 song ender
- 58 An ex of Frank

Down

- 1 "That's a riot!"
- 2 Rangers shortstop, familiarly
- 3 "Swoosh" company

Solutions will be posted in Saturday's Freedom Watch