



FREEDOM WATCH



December 4, 2002 ❖ Published in the interest of those serving in Operation Enduring Freedom ❖ Bagram, Afghanistan

News briefs

(Compiled from CNN.com)

Uncle Sam wants your kid

BOSTON, Mass. — A little-noticed provision in a new federal education law is requiring high schools to hand over to military recruiters some key information about its juniors and seniors: name, address and phone number. The Pentagon says the information will help recruit young people to defend their country. But the new law disturbs parents and administrators in some liberal communities that aren't exactly gung-ho about the armed forces. The No Child Left Behind law, signed last January, pumps billions into education but also gives military recruiters access to the names, addresses and phone numbers of students in 22,000 schools. The law also says that schools must give the military the same access to their campuses that businesses and college recruiters enjoy. School systems that fail to comply could lose federal money.

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Bush gives review of war on terror

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — President Bush used the occasion of signing the 2003 National Defense Authorization Act to chart the course of the war on terror and to tell a Pentagon crowd that Iraq's responses to date "are not encouraging."

Bush thanked military and civilian personnel at the Pentagon for their service. He said the U.S. military is per-

forming its missions with skill and speed.

Bush said the legislation gives military members higher pay, improved facilities and better housing. The act authorizes purchase of state-of-the-art weapons and equipment while ensuring funds for operations and maintenance.

"The legislation that I sign this afternoon was passed by Congress in a remarkable spirit of unity," Bush

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Combat actions in Afghanistan, Iraq

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — A B-52 Stratofortress dropped precision-guided munitions in support of U.S. special operations forces that came under attack Sunday in Afghanistan.

There were also two incidents in Iraq, said DoD officials.

In Afghanistan, U.S. troops were patrolling outside Shindand in Herat

Province, near the border with Iran. A group of armed Afghans opened fire on the patrol. The special operators returned fire and called for close-air support. The B-52 dropped seven 2,000-pound bombs, and the patrol broke contact. There were no American casualties.

In another incident, six rockets or rocket-propelled grenades impacted near the airfield at Forward Operating Base

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Photo by Spc. Erica Leigh Foley

Medical care

Sgt. Rosemary Gaylor, ward master of the intermediate care ward, 339th Combat Support Hospital, Pittsburgh, tends to a child injured in a house bombing in Bagram, Afghanistan.



Photo by Spc. Erica Leigh Foley

Playing hard

Sgt. David Morell, ordnance, 513th VMA from Yuma, Ariz., conducts maintenance on a guided bomb unit with Lance Cpl. Andres Ortega, ordnance technician, and Warrant Officer James Ingles, ordnance officer, watching.

COMBAT, from Page 1

Salerno. All were duds. Soldiers investigating found a truck with a rocket-launching rack. They detained five people in the vicinity for further questioning.

Operation Northern Watch aircraft dropped precision-guided bombs Dec. 2 on elements of the Iraqi air defense system after Iraqi gunners fired on coalition patrol aircraft.

The U.S. and British planes hit an anti-aircraft artillery site 10 miles east of Mosul. All aircraft returned safely. The last incident in the north was Nov. 28.

Since January, Operation Northern Watch aircraft have flown 99 days and been shot at on 78 of them. Coalition aircraft have replied to the Iraqi provocation 17 times.

Operation Northern Watch enforcement continues.

In the Southern No-fly Zone, Iraqi gunners fired on coalition aircraft on Dec. 1. Coalition aircraft dropped precision-guided weapons on Iraqi air defense facilities located between Tallil, 170 miles southeast of Baghdad and al-Basrah, approximately 240 miles southeast of Baghdad.

WAR, from Page 1

said. "It sets priorities in our Defense Department in a critical, critical period for our country."

He said military and civilian members of the department have two difficult tasks: fighting and winning a war and transforming the U.S. military to win the "new kind of war." He said the United States is facing unprecedented challenges and the military is responding with "unmatched technology, careful planning and the finest traditions of valor."

He stated that the war on terror has illustrated the future face of warfare. U.S. forces are now, and must become, more agile, mobile and lethal. U.S. weapons are "smarter" and tactics are more inventive. He said these priorities are reflected in this year's budget.

"You will see them reflected in every military budget I submit and sign as your president," Bush said. "Now and in the future, we will maintain a military that is second to none."

He said U.S. troops in Afghanistan remain engaged in a difficult mission. "We're hunting down trained killers — and that's all they are, nothing but a bunch of cold-blooded killers," Bush said. "Thanks to the United States military, the terrorist camps are closed, many terrorists

"Now and in the future, we will maintain a military that is second to none."

— George W. Bush

President

have met their fates in the caves and mountains of Afghanistan and others are now in custody."

Yet many terrorists remain at large and are plotting in more than 60 countries around the world, the president said. The United States will continue to track these people and hunt them down. "They think they can run. They can't run far enough from the long arm of justice of the United States," the president said.

He said the same thinking leads the United States to oppose Iraq, "a uniquely dangerous regime that possesses the weapons of mass murder, has used those weapons and could supply those weapons to terrorists."

He said U.N. inspectors are not in Iraq "to play hide-and-seek with Saddam Hussein." He noted that inspectors do not have the manpower or the duty to uncover weapons hidden somewhere in a vast country.

"The responsibility of inspectors is simply to confirm the evidence of voluntary and total disarmament," Bush said.

The president stressed that any act of delay, deception or defiance will prove Hussein is not complying with

United Nations resolutions. The United States, he said, will make one judgment on the inspection process: has Saddam Hussein changed his behavior of the last 11 years, and decided to cooperate willingly or not.

"So far the signs are not encouraging," Bush said. "A regime that fires upon American and British pilots is not taking the path of compliance. A regime that sends letters filled with protests and falsehoods is not taking the path of compliance."

He stated that Iraq must declare its weapons of mass destruction and missile program on or before Dec. 8. He said the Iraqi dictator's declaration "must be accurate and complete or he will demonstrate that he has chosen not to change behavior."

He said the United States seeks peace and that war is the last option for confronting threats.

"Yet the temporary peace of denial and looking away from danger would only be a prelude to broader war and greater horror," he said. "America will confront gathering dangers early, before our options become limited and desperate. By showing our resolve today, we're building a future of peace."

BRIEFS, from Page 1

HIND SIGHT

1861

Queen Victoria of Britain forbids the export of gunpowder, firearms and all materials for their production.

1872

The U.S. brigantine *Marie Celeste* is found adrift and deserted with its cargo intact, in the Atlantic Ocean between the Azores and Portugal.

1900

The French National Assembly, successor to the States-General, rejects Nationalist General Mercier's proposal to plan an invasion of England.

1981

President Ronald Reagan broadens the power of the CIA by allowing spying in the United States.

Iraq promises declaration; U.S., U.N. dubious

BAGHDAD, Iraq — An Iraqi official said Tuesday his government would give the United Nations a report on its weapons of mass destruction on Saturday — one day ahead of the deadline set by the U.N. Security Council. But U.S. and U.N. officials cautioned against assuming that Iraq ultimately would fully comply with Security Council resolution 1441 giving it one last chance to disarm or face war.

S. Korea seeks more power over U.S. troops

SEOUL, South Korea — South Korean President Kim Dae-jung is planning a push for greater legal jurisdiction over U.S. troops in South Korea after a deadly traffic accident earlier this year which inflamed anti-American sentiment. Last week, President George W. Bush joined a long list of U.S. officials to apologize to South Korea following the June accident in which a U.S. Army vehicle crushed two schoolgirls to death on a village road north of the capital, Seoul. The accident, and the U.S. court martial acquittal of the vehicle's driver and navigator last month, have sparked street protests with activists rejecting the apologies and demanding the withdrawal of 37,000 U.S. troops based in South Korea.

Bagram Air Base MWR movies

The Bagram Air Base Morale, Welfare and Recreation staff present "15 Minutes" tonight at 1530Z at the MWR building.

Tomorrow's movie will be "Deuces Wild," showing at the same time.

Local weather

TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER REPORT:

	<i>Today</i>	<i>Thursday</i>
Bagram:	<i>Dusty</i> H: 46F L: 19F	<i>Sunny</i> H: 50F L: 23F
Kandahar:	<i>Dusty</i> H: 57F L: 32F	<i>Mostly sunny</i> H: 59F L: 32F
Kabul:	<i>Haze</i> H: 45F L: 28F	<i>Haze</i> H: 46F L: 25F
Uzbekistan:	<i>Mostly sunny</i> H: 24F L: 2F	<i>Mostly sunny</i> H: 35F L: 6F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

FREEDOM WATCH

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COALITION SPORTSZONE

The Day in Sports

(Compiled from ESPN.com)

Jordan, Russell help Wizards end six-game losing streak

WASHINGTON — In their latest episode of trading spaces, Michael Jordan and Bryon Russell helped the Washington Wizards end their six-game losing streak.

Jordan scored 25 points in his second game as a starter, and the man he replaced in the lineup, Russell, matched his season-high with 16 points in a 103-78 rout of the Milwaukee Bucks on Tuesday night.

Etan Thomas matched a career-high with 14 points and had seven rebounds for the Wizards, who used their bench extensively. Jordan played 30 minutes in the one-sided game and sat down for good early in the four quarter.

Tim Thomas scored a season-high 17 points for the undermanned Bucks, who played without Ray Allen and Toni Kukoc. Milwaukee, one of the best shooting teams in the league, shot just 37 percent. Michael Redd was 6-for-16 from the field, Sam Cassell was 3-for-12, Anthony Mason was 2-for-7, and Jason Caffey was 1-for-8.

Last week, Russell asked to be removed from the starting lineup because his minutes were getting squeezed by Jordan's early entry off the bench. With their roles reserved, both looked more comfortable — and they teamed up for the run that gave the Wizards the lead for good.

Jordan and Russell scored 27 consecutive Wizards points from the final minute of the first quarter through the first seven minutes of the second quarter, including all the points in a 16-5 run that put Washington ahead 42-29.

2002 Bowl Championship Series

TEAM	TOTAL
1. Miami, Fla.	3.53
2. Ohio State	4.01
3. Georgia	9.03
4. USC	9.84
5. Iowa	10.55
6. Washington St.	17.67
7. Oklahoma	18.87
8. Kansas St.	20.05
9. Texas	20.28
10. Notre Dame	20.73
11. Michigan	24.08
12. Colorado	25.97
13. Penn St.	27.69
14. Florida St.	36.12
15. West Virginia	38.43



Notre Dame could be left out of any BCS bowl games; Iowa clinches elusive spot

After a conference call meeting Tuesday between league commissioners, bowl game executives and officials with the BCS, the Big Ten Conference announced that Iowa has secured a spot in a BCS bowl game.

And what that means, although not announced by the Big Ten, is that if Washington State beats UCLA this Saturday, therefore securing a spot in the Rose Bowl, and Miami beats Virginia Tech to get into the national title game at the Tostitos Fiesta Bowl, that leaves Notre Dame out of any potential BCS bowl game this season.

With Southern California being fourth in the latest BCS standings, if both WSU and Miami win this weekend, then the Trojans will be guaranteed an at-large spot in a BCS bowl. That leaves just one at-large spot left for the BCS bowl games, which are the Fiesta, Rose, FedEx Orange and Nokia Sugar bowls. Exact pairings for those game won't be known until after games this weekend.

2002 NBA standings



Eastern Conference

Atlantic

(2)Philadelphia	14-4
(3)Boston	12-5
(6)New Jersey	12-7
(7)Orlando	10-8
Washington	7-10

Central

(1)Indiana	14-3
(4)Detroit	12-5
(5)New Orleans	11-6
(8)Milwaukee	8-9
Atlanta	8-10

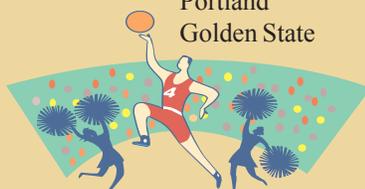
Western Conference

Midwest

(1)Dallas	16-1
(3)San Antonio	11-7
(4)Houston	9-7
(5)Utah	10-8
(7)Minnesota	10-8

Pacific

(2)Sacramento	14-5
(6)Seattle	10-8
(8)Phoenix	8-8
Portland	7-8
Golden State	6-11



Oh, no! Knicks win by 32

NEWYORK —Asked to recall the last time the Knicks had such an easy time, Latrell Sprewell drew a blank.

“I can’t even remember,” Sprewell said. “I can’t even tell you when we had a big game like that.”

Sprewell’s memory lapse was understandable Monday night following New York’s 125-93 victory over Cleveland — the Cavaliers’ 15th consecutive loss.

Not since April 14, when the Knicks beat Miami by 27 points for their 30th and final victory of last season, had they enjoyed such an easy win.

Allan Houston scored 29 points and Kurt Thomas had a career-high six blocks to go with 22 points for the Knicks, who have put together their first three-game winning streak since January.

The Knicks surpassed the 100-point plateau for just the second time this season in a game that wasn’t close for the final three quarters.

“We’re still going to have problems because of our size, but the team’s starting to realize if we’re going to win games then we’re going to have to play a certain way,” coach Don Chaney said.

Sprewell added 11 assists and Howard Eisley had 10 for the Knicks, who shot 53 percent, led by Thomas’ 11-for-15 effort.

Dajuan Wagner had 25 points and 10 assists for the Cavs, who are closing in on the longest losing streak in franchise history — 19 games during the 1981-82 season.

Banged-up Nets beat Hawks for 2nd victory in last 5 games; still trail Sixers for div. lead

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. —Richard Jefferson bounced back from a big blunder with 22 points and a career-high 14 rebounds Tuesday night to lead the banged-up New Jersey Nets to an 87-72 victory over the Atlanta Hawks.

The victory was only the second in five games for the Nets, with one of those losses largely to blame on Jefferson.

He missed two free throws with New Jersey up by two points with 9.8 seconds left in Seattle on Sunday. Brent Barry then hit a game-winning 3-pointer.

Jefferson shot 9-for-12 against Atlanta, while Kenyon Martin added 18 points and Rodney Rogers had 12 as the Nets had no problems despite

being without starters Dikembe Mutombo (wrist) and Kerry Kittles (knee).

Even an off night by Jason Kidd (seven points, six assists, four rebounds) didn’t hurt as New Jersey used its tough defense to hold Atlanta to season lows in points, field goals (29) and shooting percentage (.363).

The Hawks previous lows were 88 points, 30 field goals and 39.1 percent.

Atlanta’s potent frontcourt of Glenn Robinson (22.4 points) and Shareef Abdur-Rahim (21.6) combined for just 19 points on 8-for-26 shooting.

Reserve guard Dion Glover has 16 points to lead the Hawks, who lost their fourth straight road game and fifth in seven games overall.

New Jersey won this game with strong finishes at the end of the first and second quarters.

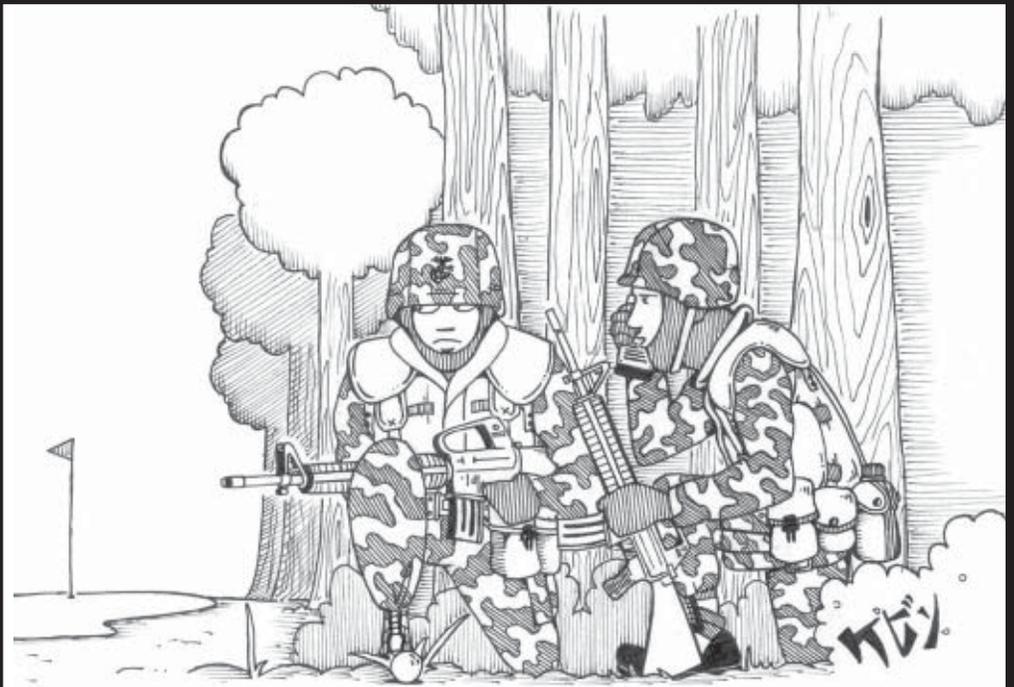
Leading 17-16, Kidd hit a driving layup and a 3-pointer to cap a 10-2 spurt that gave New Jersey a 27-18 lead.

Jefferson provided the fireworks in a 10-point run at the end of the second quarter.

The second-year forward hit two free throws and a jumper to ignite the burst and capped it by running the baseline to jam an alley-oop pass from Kidd with less than a second left for a 51-35 lead.

The game got ugly after that. By the end of the game, Nets fans were chanting “Scal-a-brine,” their plea to coach Byron Scott to insert 12th man Brian Scalabrine.

“We’ve located your ball, sir.”



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By Kevin Kilgore

Laugh Support