



# FREEDOM WATCH



December 19, 2002 ❖ Published in the interest of those serving in Operation Enduring Freedom ❖ Bagram, Afghanistan

## News briefs

(Compiled from CNN.com)

### White House: Saddam has missed 'last chance'

**WASHINGTON**—The Bush administration plans to tell the U.N. Security Council that Iraq's declaration of its weapons programs falls far short of a full and complete accounting, and suggested Wednesday that Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein has missed his "last chance" to disarm.

The top U.N. nuclear weapons inspector likewise will tell the council that Iraq's report leaves unanswered questions.

If the decision is made, the Pentagon would increase the number of troops in the region from 60,000 to 100,000.

Other administration officials said the Bush team is not pushing for immediate military confrontation.

"The United States will continue to be deliberative in this manner. But this was Saddam Hussein's last chance," said White House press secretary Ari Fleischer.

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Spc. Kristina Kennedy, 91W, 339th Combat Support Hospital, Pittsburgh, checks the IV line and comforts a burn patient in the trauma room.

## 91W series put to test in Bagram AB

Story & photo by Spc. Erica Leigh Foley  
**28th Public Affairs Detachment**

**BAGRAM**, Afghanistan — *It's the middle of the night in the war zone. The moon is full and the emergency room*

*is quiet. Surgery packs are being cleaned and drawers are stocked with catheters, gauze, antiseptic and various medical supplies by the 91Ws.*

The 91W series is a new series in the medical care spectrum. The scope

of practice was so similar between the 91C, who are licensed practical nurses, and 91B, medics, that the two military occupational specialties merged.

"The 91C covered basic practical nursing, clinical skills, minor nursing procedures, medical

assisting. The 91B's covered emergency medical treatment, patient resuscitation and basic medical assisting," said Spc. Tony Fantasia, 91W, 339th Combat Support Hospital, Pittsburgh.

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## Thrift Saving Plan open season ends Dec. 31

**Air Force Print News**

**RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas** — Civilian and military employees still have time to sign up for or change Thrift Savings Plan accounts during the current open season.

"With the holiday season rapidly approaching, we want to remind everyone that open sea-

son dates have changed, and this year ends earlier than in past years," said Janet Thomas of the civilian Benefits and Entitlements Service Team at the Air Force Personnel Center here. The last day TSP open season elections can be made is Dec. 31.

Changes made after Dec. 1 will become effective the beginning of the following pay period for ci-

vilians and the following month for military.

Specific information is available for civilian employees from the Thrift Savings Web site at [www.tsp.gov/](http://www.tsp.gov/) or the BEST home page at [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dpc/BEST/menu.htm](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/dpc/BEST/menu.htm) and for Air Force military personnel at [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/mpf/TSP/thrift\\_savings\\_plan.htm](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/mpf/TSP/thrift_savings_plan.htm).

**91W**, from Page 1

*With little warning, but to no surprise, a medevac arrives with a wounded patient.*

*A 31-year-old John Doe, the driver of a high mobility multi-wheeled vehicle, drove over and detonated a landmine near the Pakistan border. The mine perforated two layers of Kevlar armor in the floor. Doe sustained a massive laceration on his left arm and open fractures to both legs. The 91W on site wrapped the injuries and administered two morphine injections, keeping a constant eye on Doe's vitals and assessing the injuries.*

"The 91Whiskeys are our first line of defense here," said Staff Sgt. Rodney Glass, Bagram Air Base emergency room noncommissioned officer in charge. "From the time a person goes down through the first hour is what we call the precious hour. The 91Ws identify what is wrong, what needs to be done and why the patient is here."

They also search for weapons when Afghan locals are brought on base for treatment, insert IVs, administer medications, check blood pressure, load and unload patients and brief doctors on the injuries of the incoming patients.

Fantasia was a 91C before the two skills



Photo by Spc. Tony Fantasia, 339th Combat Support Hospital

**The 91Ws helps doctors from preparation to surgery during emergencies because they are trained for trauma and clinical procedures.**

merged two years ago. He also works as a licensed practitioner nurse and registered nurse in his civilian job.

"The merge allows the 91B to gain more experience in clinical procedures that LPNs perform, and LPNs gain more experience in the trauma and emergency medical aspects," he said.

This allows for the formation of more well-rounded medic and medical assistants. The scope of practice eliminates stagnation in an MOS. Those interested in continuing with medical professions have the necessary exposure in the field, Fantasia said.

*Doe was evaluated*

*by orthopedic surgery. He had some sensation in his left foot, but it was unreliable because of the medications administered to him.*

*While Doe was under emergency care, a 91W helped the doctor start a central IV line for the fluids and medications. He connected the blood pressure monitor, cardiac monitor, oxygen sensors and the pulse-oximeter — which reads the oxygen level of the patient — to Doe and remains ready to assist the doctor.*

*Before the operation, the 91W helps prep and drape both lower extremities, in addition to irrigating and taking debris out of*

*the lacerations on the legs.*

With the merger, a combat soldier not only has a medic with good trauma skills, but one with the training to perform minor surgical skills necessary for rapid stabilization and treatment of life threatening injuries, Fantasia said.

"The transition has allowed me to explore other avenues of medicine because I have been allowed to practice certain procedures under the auspice of a doctors license," he said.

Fantasia isn't the only 91W glad to have the experience.

"When you are in a battlefield situation,

you see things you have never seen before," said Glass.

*Unfortunately, the left foot was amputated, but thanks to the immediate and professional care from the 91Ws and the Bagram Trauma Room the right injured leg and left arm will be functional after recovery.*

"This is a great job, you get to see a lot and it's always challenging," said Glass. "I have learned so much. I feel like I have really helped people. I thank God everyday American's do not have to see the things we see here on a daily basis — but I also thank him for the opportunity to help here."

# HIND SIGHT

**1562**

The French Wars of Religion between the Huguenots and the Catholics begins with the Battle of Dreux.

**1909**

American socialist women denounce suffrage as a movement of the middle class.

**1942**

The British advance 40 miles into Burma in a drive to oust the Japanese from the colony.

**1945**

Congress confirms Eleanor Roosevelt as U.S. delegate to the United Nations.

**1950**

The North Atlantic Council names General Dwight D. Eisenhower as supreme commander of Western European defense forces.

## BRIEFS, from Page 1

### Rumsfeld says he'll take smallpox vaccine

**WASHINGTON** — In an interview Wednesday with CNN's Larry King, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld revealed his plans to take the smallpox vaccine, which can carry severe side effects, including death.

"I certainly intend to, simply because it's hard to ask people to do something that you're not willing to do yourself," Rumsfeld said, responding to a question posed by King.

President Bush has said he, too, will take the vaccine after ordering vaccinations for some military personnel.

The vaccine will be administered to about 500,000 troops deployed in high-risk parts of the world under the first phase of the vaccination plan. The inoculations began this month, according to the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

The Defense Department said vaccinations will be mandatory except for those who have medical exemptions.

## Bagram Air Base MWR movies

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

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

## Local weather

### TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER REPORT:

	<i>Today</i>	<i>Friday</i>
<b>Bagram:</b>	<i>Fog</i> H: 50F L: 27F	<i>Fog</i> H: 52F L: 27F
<b>Kandahar:</b>	<i>Rain</i> H: 66F L: 39F	<i>Haze</i> H: 66F L: 37F
<b>Kabul:</b>	<i>Partly Cloudy</i> H: 52F L: 28F	<i>Partly Cloudy</i> H: 52F L: 27F
<b>Uzbekistan:</b>	<i>Fog</i> H: 36F L: 22F	<i>Scattered Snow</i> H: 38F L: 22F

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)

### Ex-Bruins receiver goes home again as coach

LOS ANGELES — Former UCLA wide receiver Karl Dorrell was hired Wednesday night as the Bruins' 15th head coach, becoming the fourth African-American coach in Division I.

In his third year as wide receivers coach for the Denver Broncos, the 39-year-old Dorrell succeeds Bob Toledo — fired nine days earlier after seven years on the job.

"Obviously, I am privileged and honored to be the new football coach at UCLA," Dorrell said in a statement. "It has always been a dream of mine to someday return to campus as the head coach at this great university."

The other black head coaches in Division I are Tyrone Willingham at Notre Dame, San Jose State's Fitz Hill and New Mexico State's Tony Samuel.

"Karl Dorrell is an outstanding fit for UCLA," Guerrero said. "Everyone with whom I spoke held Karl in high regard in the areas of leadership, coaching, relating to players, recruiting and dealing with media and alumni."

The head coaching job will be the first for Dorrell, who coached 12 years at the collegiate level, including seven as an offensive coordinator, before being hired by the Broncos.

### NCAA 1-A Top 15 teams

TEAM	RECORD
1. Miami, Fla.	12-0
2. Ohio St.	13-0
3. Iowa	11-1
4. Georgia	12-1
5. USC	10-2
6. Kansas St.	10-2
7. Washington St.	10-2
8. Oklahoma	11-2
9. Texas	10-2
10. Penn St.	9-3
11. Notre Dame	10-2
12. Michigan	9-3
13. Alabama	10-3
14. Colorado	9-4
15. West Virginia	9-3



### 2002 National Hockey League standings

#### Eastern Conference

##### Atlantic

(2) Philadelphia	40 pts
(5) New Jersey	36 pts
N.Y. Rangers	31 pts
Pittsburgh	29 pts
N.Y. Islanders	27 pts

##### Northeast

(1) Boston	42 pts
(4) Ottawa	40 pts
(6) Montreal	34 pts
(8) Toronto	33 pts
Buffalo	22 pts

##### Southeast

(3) Tampa Bay	37 pts
(7) Carolina	34 pts
Florida	30 pts
Washington	29 pts
Atlanta	20 pts

#### Western Conference

##### Central

(3) Detroit	40 pts
(5) St. Louis	38 pts
Chicago	34 pts
Columbus	27 pts
Nashville	23 pts

##### Northwest

(2) Minnesota	43 pts
(4) Vancouver	41 pts
(6) Edmonton	38 pts
Colorado	33 pts
Calgary	26 pts

##### Pacific

(1) Dallas	44 pts
(7) Los Angeles	35 pts
(8) Anaheim	35 pts
San Jose	31 pts
Phoenix	29 pts

### Smith expected to take Michigan State sometime this week

LOUISVILLE — Louisville football coach John L. Smith will accept the head coaching job at Michigan State, possibly some time this week, ESPN has learned.

Earlier this week, Michigan State asked and received permission to talk to Smith about the Spartans' coaching job, which became vacant when Bobby Williams was fired Nov. 4 during a 4-8 season, the school's worst since 1991.

The Cardinals were playing Marshall in the GMAC Bowl in Mobile, Ala., on Wednesday night. Louisville athletics director Tom Jurich, who was attending the game, was contacted by Michigan State about Smith.

The Cardinals were 41-20 under Smith heading into Wednesday night's game. They reached a bowl game in each of Smith's five seasons.

Louisville won its second straight Conference USA championship and finished 11-2 in 2001 but went a disappointing 7-5 in 2002.

## Bowden pleased with Walker's first practice

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla.**— Florida State quarterback Fabian Walker took his first snaps as the Seminoles' starting quarterback Wednesday, a day after starter Chris Rix was suspended for the Nokia Sugar Bowl game against Georgia.

Rix was suspended Tuesday for missing a final exam after he overslept. The sudden move leaves the Seminoles without their top two quarterbacks for the game New Year's Day. Adrian McPherson was kicked off the team last month after being accused of stealing a check.

Coach Bobby Bowden said he was pleased with Walker's performance.

"The main thing for him is to keep playing and to get sharper every day," Bowden said. "He has a great arm, one of the quickest releases out here. He just has to learn where everybody is."

Playing with the first team Wednesday, Walker said he was relaxed and enjoyed his first day as the starter.

"I feel real good," Walker said. "This is a dream come true to get a chance to start at Florida State. I'm just really looking forward to it right now."

Matt Henshaw, who has never played a college game and had been moved to tight end before the season began, will be Walker's backup.

## FSU's Rix declared ineligible for bowl game

**TALLAHASSEE, Fla.** — Florida State quarterback Chris Rix was suspended for the Nokia Sugar Bowl on Tuesday because he overslept and missed a final exam.

The move leaves the Seminoles without their top two quarterbacks for the Jan. 1 game against Southeastern Conference champion Georgia. Backup Adrian McPherson was kicked off the team last month after being accused of stealing a check.

Rix slept through a religion exam, an automatic suspension under a rule established after former Seminoles star Deion Sanders played in the 1989 Sugar Bowl despite not taking any final exams.

"It's an academic decision, there's no chance for him to play in the Sugar Bowl," coach Bobby Bowden said.

Rix, a sophomore, said he overslept because of a "personal family issue, which was weighing heavily on me." He did not elaborate.

"I apologize to my teammates, coaches and the fans as this is a difficult price to pay," he said in a statement released by the school. "I'm in good academic standing and am on track to graduate on time."

Bowden said sophomore Fabian Walker from Americus, Ga., would start when the Seminoles (9-4) play the Bulldogs (12-1).

Matt Henshaw becomes No. 2 and wide receiver Anquan Boldin, a high school quarterback, would be third string.

Walker played in three games, completing 5 of 8 passes for 74 yards.

"It's been a long road, but every time something comes up it seems to have a positive outcome to it," Walker said.

McPherson was kicked off the team Nov. 25, and he was arrested on felony and misdemeanor charges the following week.

"We're getting accustomed to this," cornerback Stanford Samuels said. "The last time this made us stronger. We'll just have to respond again."

*"So Mr. Claus, how do you avoid anti-aircraft fire?"*



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By Kevin Kilgore

*Laugh Support*