

## Soldiers Plant Seeds of Reconstruction

By Spc. Erik LeDrew  
122nd MPAD

CAMP RUSTAMIYAH, Baghdad, Iraq - People filled up a line of cars, trucks and tractors that stretched several hundred yards to either side of the schoolhouse in eastern Baghdad Oct. 8, but none of them were coming there to learn. Instead, these were all farming families coming to receive bags of seed and growing chemicals that were being handed out by the Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment of the 1st Cavalry Division's 1st Brigade Combat Team.

"We have three trucks today," said 2nd Lt. Brendan Tarpey, a platoon leader with 1-82 FA, whose patrol was in charge of the event. "One truck is carrying seven tons of wheat seeds, another is carrying seven tons of barley, and the other truck is carrying seven tons of fertilizer."

The amount each farming family would receive depended upon how much land they owned.

"Instead of acres, the Iraqis use donums," said Capt. William Powers, 1-82 FA's Civil Affairs projects officer and Fire Direction Officer. "One acre is equal to about 1.6 donums."

So for every three donums of land a family owns, they received approximately one bag of each: wheat, barley, and fertilizer, Tarpey said, for a total of three bags.

Between Tarpey's patrol and another one that

occurred earlier in the day, the battalion distributed a total of 42 tons of seed and fertilizer Oct. 8, but the battalion distributed seed and fertilizer for a total of five days.

"We're doing this for five days and then we'll see how much we have left," Tarpey, a Wayne, N.J. native, said.

Powers said the battalion used its Commander's Emergency Relief Projects (CERP) fund to purchase the seed and fertilizer for Iraqi farmers.

"We spent approximately \$90,000 on wheat and barley seed, and \$60,000 on fertilizer," Powers, a St. Petersburg, Fla. native said. "So I was able to purchase through the CERP funds 70 metric tons of wheat, 70 metric tons of barley and 175 tons of fertilizer."

Distributing seed and fertilizer is only one component in a much larger effort to aid the farmers in eastern Baghdad, which involves improving irrigation and helping create an "Iraqi Farmer's Union" with the Iraqi Ministry of Agriculture.

Powers said the project began in June when the 1st BCT's commander, Col. Robert Abrams, decided the Ironhorse Brigade needed to start focusing on improving agriculture in their area of operations.

"Since we have the most farmland in our sector of any other battalion [in the 1st BCT], Col. Abrams put 1-82 in charge of this project," Powers said.



By Spc. Erik LeDrew, 122nd MPAD

Sgt. Willard Smith, Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment, helps an Iraqi farmer load bags of fertilizer into his truck at a seed and fertilizer distribution event put on by his battalion in eastern Baghdad for the local farmers.

"We have approximately 35 square kilometers of farmland in our sector," Powers added.

When a majority of the farmers asked for 1-82's help in acquiring seed to plant for the fall planting season, which usually occurs from Oct. 15 through Nov. 15, the battalion obliged to give them a hand.

"Their basic need right

now is that the Ministry of Agriculture couldn't help the farmers out with seed for the fall planting season, so that's where we stepped in," Powers said.

"It's not so much that it's us handing out free stuff," Tarpey added, "It's that this is something we can give the farmers so that they can have a leg-up in this next planting season."



By Staff Sgt. Christopher Grant, 411th Engineer Battalion

Bohica Blues cartoons are drawn by Staff Sgt. Christopher Grant, of the 411th Engineer Battalion from Boise, Idaho. His battalion is attached to the 1st Cavalry Division in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom II. Grant says he draws cartoons as a way to present his, and his Soldiers' opinions to the world. His work is also displayed at the the Antelope (Engineer) dining facility on Camp Al-Tahreer.

## It's Holiday Greetings Time



Get your personal message aired on your hometown local television station over the holidays (military only).

**Today Oct. 16**  
Post Exchange:  
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

**Tomorrow Oct. 17**  
Division Main:  
9:30 a.m. - 12:30p.m.  
Post Exchange:  
1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**Saturday**  
High: 98  
Low: 72

**Sunday**  
High: 101  
Low: 70

**Monday**  
High: 101  
Low: 67

Weather information provided by 1CD Staff Weather Office (SWO)

**Useful Iraqi Words/Phrases**

**No. I don't like it.**  
**laa, laa yuAHjibnee**

**WAYNE NEWTON VARIETY TOUR**

Date	Time	Location
19 OCT 04	1900	Camp Liberty PX

**USO SPONSORS**

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## News Notes

### Using Sirens to Pick up Sirens?

SAN FRANCISCO (Reuters) - Nineteen firefighters in Sacramento, California have been disciplined for using city fire engines to meet women, including at a local event in which people dressed as porn stars, an official said on Wednesday. The misconduct investigation began in early July after reports of firefighters using city vehicles to cruise bars in the often sleepy state capital. Later six firefighters were caught taking three city vehicles to a "Porn Star Costume Ball." "It's an inappropriate use of city equipment, obviously," Capt. Niko King, the department's spokesperson, said.

### 420 Pound Teen Gets Free Bypass

HOUSTON (AP) - Two doctors and a hospital offered a free gastric bypass to a 420-pound teenager after another medical center canceled the procedure because his insurance would not pay for it. Doctors at Obesity Surgery Specialists said 16-year-old Brandon Bennett needs the operation for a chance at a healthy life. Brandon is often sent home from school because of high blood pressure and an elevated heart rate, and he is too big to be allowed on rides at Six Flags Astroworld. The so-called stomach-stapling surgery, which usually costs about \$25,000, is considered a last resort for morbidly obese people.



Copperas Cove Herald

The Ogletree Gap Heritage Festival - an annual celebration of Copperas Cove's pioneer heritage - will take place this weekend in the city's Ogletree Gap park. Highlighting this year's festival will be mock Civil War battles and soldiers' encampments. Civil War re-enactors and American Indians, storytellers and demonstrators will add to the entertainment.

## Flu Mist Study in 5th Year

TEMPLE, Texas (Temple Daily Telegram) - Scott and White Memorial Hospital and Baylor College of Medicine began the fifth year of their flu study Thursday by vaccinating the first two of what they hope will be thousands of children with FluMist, an inhaled vaccination.

Two Temple students, Tristen Coffee, 7, and her brother, Harrison Coffee, 5, received the painless vaccine, a process probably made all the more scary by the presence of local media photographing them.

"It tingled, and it tasted funny," said Tristen, a second-grader.

"It felt good," added her brother.

According to Scott and White officials, the study is part of an ongoing attempt to



Temple Daily Telegram

Five-year-old Harrison Coffee of Temple receives the flu mist vaccination administered by Clinical Research Coordinator Linda Chichester, R.N. Thursday.

determine if protecting children by flu vaccination will help prevent the spread of influenza to their families, and consequently, the community.

Investigators at Scott and White and the Baylor College of Medicine believe

that immunizing children can significantly lower the incidences of influenza across all age groups.

Funded by the National Institutes of Health, the study provides FluMist at no charge to healthy children between 5 and 18 years old.

## Rolen Strikes in Card's Win

ST. LOUIS (AP) - Scott Rolen and the St. Louis Cardinals sure stormed back in a hurry.

Rolen hit two home runs, combining with Albert Pujols for back-to-back shots in the eighth inning that sent the Cardinals past the Houston Astros 6-4 on a miserable Thursday night for a 2-0 lead in the NL championship series.

After Pujols led off with a tiebreaking shot, the recently slumping Rolen connected in a cold rain. The drives gave the Cardinals consecutive homers for the first time in their long, proud postseason history.

"I don't know what my postseason numbers are, but tonight I contributed to help us win a ballgame," Rolen said.



<sup>AP</sup> St. Louis Cardinals' Scott Rolen is welcomed to the dugout after his eighth inning solo home run.

Nursing a strained left calf, the All-Star third baseman was 0-for-14 in this year's playoffs before an RBI single in Game 1. So what did his teammates say to him after this per-

formance?

"About damn time," Rolen said, laughing.

The weather was awful all evening, with drizzle delaying the start for almost a half-hour and lasting through the final pitch. But in the end, despite temperatures falling into the mid-40s, no one in the sell-out crowd at Busch Stadium was complaining.

Larry Walker also homered for St. Louis in a series dominated by the sluggers. Carlos Beltran hit his sixth homer of the postseason and Morgan Ensberg also homered as the wild-card Astros took a 3-0 lead.

"The good thing is this isn't a two-game series," Houston manager Phil Garner said. "We're not where we want to be certainly, but we'll work this thing out."

## No. 3 Miami Squeaks by Louisville

MIAMI (AP) - The Louisville Cardinals drew a flag for excessive celebration in the second quarter, and another in the third. Against Miami, the displays of jubilation were premature.

Led by Brock Berlin and Devin Hester, the third-ranked Hurricanes erased a 17-point deficit over the final 20 minutes and came from behind twice in the fourth quarter to beat No. 18 Louisville 41-38 Thursday night.

Berlin threw three touchdown passes and directed the winning drive, a 56-yard march capped by Frank Gore's 1-yard run with 49 seconds left.

"We kind of got ourselves in a hole," Berlin said. "Some things weren't working. But we proved what type of character our

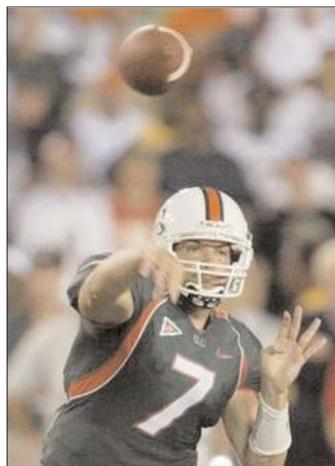
team has."

Gore's touchdown capped a seesaw fourth quarter. Hester scored on a 78-yard punt return to put Miami ahead 34-31, but Louisville regained the lead when freshman backup quarterback Brian Brohm directed an 80-yard touchdown drive.

Stefan LeFors threw three touchdown passes for the Cardinals before being sidelined with a concussion in the fourth quarter.

"This is the type of game that puts the Louisville program on the map," said Tiger Jones, who caught two touchdown passes for the Cardinals (4-1).

They had touted the game as perhaps the biggest in school history and rose to the occasion. The Hurricanes (5-0) narrowly



<sup>AP</sup> Miami quarterback Brock Berlin (7) throws during the second half against Louisville Thursday.

averted only the second loss in their past 30 games at the Orange Bowl to remain in the race for their sixth national championship since 1983.

### In Brief

#### Clapton Loses Drivers Permit

DIJON, France (AP) - Eric Clapton won't be



driving in France for a while. Police said they clocked the rock star speeding

down a highway at 134 mph and suspended his license. Radar caught Clapton whizzing down a highway Tuesday in his Porsche 911 Turbo at 53 mph above the speed limit, police said. Police confiscated Clapton's British driver's license, suspending his right to drive in France.

#### Coast Guard Detains Tiger

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) - Tiger Woods and his bride were briefly detained Thursday by U.S. Coast Guard officers on their yacht Privacy, then were turned away from San Juan's port because they had failed to notify authorities of their arrival. Since July 1, new security regulations require many boats to submit an arrival notice at least four days before entering a U.S. port, Coast Guard spokesman Lt. Eric Willis said. The 28-year-old golfer and Swedish model Elin Nordegren, 24, were married Oct. 5 at a luxury resort in Barbados and later set out on the Privacy, along with a crew.

# Playing for Bragging Rights

By Staff Sgt. Sue German  
122nd MPAD

CAMP BLACK JACK, Iraq - The stakes were high and pride was on the line as warriors faced off on Camp Black Jack's dusty athletic field.

Sixteen teams participated in the Military Flag Football League playoffs Oct. 4-5. Eighteen teams started the season on Labor Day (Sept. 6); ten teams played in the morning league and eight teams in the afternoon league. The majority of teams were comprised of military personnel, males and females. There were 307 players in all.

They came to play; laying down their weapons, but not their rivalries or their friendships. Strategies were planned out in advance. Their mission was to earn bragging rights and a trophy.

Playoffs were conducted for both leagues, with the winners and runner-ups facing each other for the championship and third place games.

In the morning league, 15th Finance Battalion's Silver Eagles beat the 13th Signal Battalion's Big Crooks 37-0 to advance to the finals against the previously undefeated 15th Forward Support Battalion's Gamblers.

The Gamblers beat Steel City, comprised of members of the 28th Signal Battalion, from Pennsylvania, and 711th Signal from Alabama, 21-14 in overtime.

The Silver Eagles had been beaten by the Gamblers during the regu-



By Staff Sgt. Sue German, 122nd MPAD

Sabers' wide receiver Sgt. Jeremy Keefe goes up for a pass in the end zone during the Military Flag Football League's playoffs, Oct. 4-5 at Camp Black Jack in Baghdad.

lar season for their only loss, but defeated the Gamblers in their final encounter 28-7.

The 91st Engineer Battalion's Sabers beat the 95th Military Police Battalion's Superstars 34-6, to play Battery C, 2-15th Field Artillery Regiment's Coldsteel, who they beat 44-21, for the afternoon league championship.

Coldsteel beat the Commandos from HHC 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division 37-7.

In the end, it was the Silver Eagles, morning league champions, facing the afternoon league champions, the Sabers. The teams have been playing each other for the past three years; at Fort Hood and in off-post tournaments back in Texas. The Silver Eagles won this particular meeting 28-14. The Gamblers beat Coldsteel 21-16 for third place honors.

Four of the best football teams at Fort Hood were deployed to Iraq, according to 1st Sgt.

Kenneth Patrick, Beast Company, 91st Engineer Battalion, co-captain, cornerback and wide receiver for the Sabers. His team's next goal will be to challenge the team that wins Fort Hood's post championship in December, after they return from Iraq.

Zeb Alexander, a morale, welfare and recreation technician with the 1st Cavalry Division, was involved with the development of the league. Planning started in late July, as team captains met and sign-ups were conducted.

Games were played on the weekends and accommodated Soldier's missions. MWR personnel in black and white striped shirts served as referees and line judges.

"It's been fun working with military guys that can get competitive and actually care about winning and losing," Alexander said.

Each team wore distinctive uniforms. Some wore their military physical fitness uniforms, while others wore specially designed team jerseys or shorts. Before each game there were the usual, and some unusual, football rituals, including pre-game chanting, pounding on metallic posters and music.

Trash talking was not permitted, although that rule was difficult to enforce at times. Football and trash talking tend to go hand in hand.

By the time the final game was played, there were fans on the sidelines, as well as players and coaches from other teams cheering on their previous opponents and friends.