

## Paying Respects to our Fallen Iraqi Allies



**Col. Stephen Lanza, 5th Brigade Combat Team commander, places unit coins to honor fallen Iraqi National Guard (ING) Soldiers; Sgt. Jassin Muneekh, Sgt. Ahmed Sadoun and Pvt. Ali Shukun during a memorial ceremony at the ING compound of Camp Ferrin-Huggins June 29. The three troops were killed and another was wounded when an improvised explosive device detonated near them while they were conducting a traffic control point in Al Rashid, Iraq June 24.**

By Pfc. Al Barrus, 122nd MPAD

## 2-12 Cav. Builds Hope in Soccer Field, Playground

By Sgt. Dan Purcell  
122nd MPAD

BAGHDAD, Iraq—Nestled between a highway overpass and a lower income neighborhood in the Kamidaya District of Baghdad lies a field of hope and dreams; a symbol of a peaceful and prosperous future.

On June 30, local dignitaries and residents gathered for a ribbon cutting ceremony marking the completion of a soccer field and playground.

"Originally, it was just a dirt field with some goal posts and a lot of trash and debris, but we cleaned it out, put in some sod for grass, fenced it and put in a play ground at a cost of about \$8,000," said Capt. Kevin Badger, command-

er Company A, 2nd Battalion 12th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division.

"This was one of two soccer fields in the area, and what the Neighborhood Advisory Council (NAC) decided to do

was to combine the soccer fields and the parks together, which is why there is a playground," Badger said. "The purpose is to give the kids something to do while the adults are playing soccer."



By Sgt. Dan Purcell, 122nd MPAD

**Dr. Mohammed Kauef, District Advisory Council chairman (left) and Abdul Kadr, Neighborhood Advisory Council member cut a ribbon signifying the completion of a local soccer field and playground.**

Badger said May and June have been very busy months for beautification projects throughout his area of responsibility.

"These projects are real good for the community," he said. "We paved about a mile and half of unimproved road that runs along the Tigris River. It was in really bad shape from being used by tanks and Bradleys, but now it is providing the people with a riverside drive that they didn't have before. We have done a variety of [Commander Emergency Relief Program] projects ranging between road cleanup to parks".

As for the post transfer of authority, Badger said that the

Continued on Page 3

## Soldiers Arrive in Iraq to Backfill 39th Brigade Combat Team

By Staff Sgt. Rebekah-mae Bruns

39th Brigade Combat Team  
Public Affairs

TAJI, Iraq - Arkansas' 39th Brigade Combat Team recently received nearly 150 replacements from the states to backfill units who have lost troops due to combat and non-combat related events.

"The reality is this," said 39th Brigade Command Sgt. Maj. Larry Isbell, while briefing incoming Soldiers of their new surroundings, "you're in combat now."

The new Soldiers sat through a series of briefings that explained the rules of engagement, promotions, pay, and theater-specific operations.

New arrivals to the Baghdad International Airport were welcomed with incoming mortar fire July 2. Mortar rounds impacted on the base as Soldiers moved off the plane single-file, gathering on the flight line for further instructions.

The freshly arrived Soldiers grabbed their gear as Isbell, who came to greet them, directed troops to scatter in an effort to prevent possible casualties.

"People, now would be the time to disperse," Isbell said.

Pfc. Ryan Thackeray, 19, of Corvallis, Ore., was briefed on the flight line that the mortar attacks were nothing new.

"It was definitely something to fear," said Thackeray,



Photos by Staff Sgt. Rebekah-mae Bruns, 39th Brigade Combat Team Public Affairs  
**Pfc. Courtland Faulkner, 19, of Little Rock, Ark. is one of the nearly 200 soldiers sent to backfill units in the 39th Brigade Combat Team. The new recruits will fall in ranks and replace those lost to combat and non-combat related events.**

who is catching up to his company after being left behind in Fort Hood, Texas on medical hold for a broken ankle. "It (mortar attacks) was what I was expecting but I wasn't expecting it so soon."

In an unusual twist, one of the new recruits who completed basic training in February, met up with her mother in Iraq just two hours after the plane landed.

Pfc. Courtland Faulkner, 19, of Little Rock, Ark., is a supply clerk for the 39th Brigade Headquarters Company, who was still in basic training at the time her unit left for Iraq. Her mother, Sgt. Angela Carey is a combat medic for the same brigade and had already been in Iraq for

nearly three months when her daughter arrived two days ago.

"I was very excited to see her," said Faulkner.

In an effort to maintain family ties, Faulkner's mother gave her a radio so that the two could keep in contact. It wasn't a phone but it was close enough.

"I can call her on the radio," said Faulkner. "It doesn't get good reception but it's a good method and makes both of us feel more at ease."

For the next week, Soldiers will re-qualify on their weapons and receive further training on convoy operations, close-quarter combat operations and clearing buildings before being released to their new units.



**Pvt. Joshua Lunsford, of Dequeen, Ark., fills out paperwork along with other replacements upon arrival in Taji, Iraq. Within a week, Lunsford will join his new unit in the 39th Brigade Combat Team's 1st Battalion, 153rd Infantry Regiment, in Baghdad. Lunsford is one of more than 100 replacements who arrived in Iraq to fill vacancies due to both combat and non-combat losses.**

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## 2-302nd ING Bn. Opens Headquarters



Soldiers from the 1st Battalion, 161st Infantry Regiment of the Washington Army National Guard joined with troopers of 2nd Company, 302nd Iraqi National Guard Battalion July 3 to celebrate the opening of the ING company's headquarters building located at the Zafaraniya Government Center. Lt. Col. Chris Fowler, 1-161 INF commander and the commander of the 2nd Company, 302nd ING Battalion, cut the ribbon in front of the building. Although the finishing touches haven't been put on the building, it is ready for use.

By Spc. Bryan Kinkade  
1st Cavalry Division PAO

## Projects to Continue With NACs, DACs Taking More Active Role

Continued from Page 1  
work that is being done will continue without much change.  
"However, the Neighbor-

hood Advisory Council and District Advisory Council (DAC) will take a more active role in how things get done,

and my job will be as a facilitator and to make sure things are being done to standard," Badger said.

Coalition did for this neighborhood and we hope that there will be more projects for this area," Dr. Mohammed Rauef, DAC chairman, said. "In the future we are planning to build a big sports facility with a swimming pool, a health center and a public market."



By Sgt. Dan Purcell, 122nd MPAD

**Capt. Kevin Badger, commander of Company A, 2nd Battalion 12th Cavalry Regiment, (center) sits for a soccer team-picture marking the completion of the soccer field and playground.**

"Currently we are looking at renovating a local hospital dormitory for young doctors and we are looking at renovating a school a week in the neighborhoods," he said.

"With the recent transfer of authority has come more responsibilities, but this has been our biggest hope."

"We have been trying to make some quick fixes so the people can see that we are trying to help them, and now we are moving on to bigger projects. I think we have done pretty well so far and have made a lot of people happy."

Abdul Kadr, NAC member, concluded, "Projects, such as the soccer field are like messages of peace and help to raise the name of Iraq up so that people can see that we are a free and prosperous country again."

"I appreciate what the

**Saturday**  
High: 115  
Low: 92

**Sunday**  
High: 114  
Low: 89

**Monday**  
High: 112  
Low: 86

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

**Iraqi Word of the Day**  
path                      me-mar /darub

## Today in History

### July 10

► From [historychannel.com](http://historychannel.com)

**1943** The Allies begin their invasion of Axis-controlled Europe with landings on the island of Sicily, off mainland Italy. Encountering little resistance from the demoralized Sicilian troops, the British 8th Army under Field Marshal Bernard Law Montgomery came ashore on the southeast of the island, while the U.S. 7th Army under Gen. George S. Patton landed on Sicily's south coast. Within three days, 150,000 Allied troops were ashore.

**1965** The Rolling Stones single "(I Can't Get No) Satisfaction," from the group's 1965 album *Out of Our Heads*, climbs to No. 1 on the Billboard charts on this day in 1965. Although the band had been playing together since 1963, this was their first No. 1 hit in the United States.

**1989** Mel Blanc, the voice of Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, and countless other Warner Bros. cartoon characters, dies from complications of heart disease.

**1990** In a vindication of his sweeping economic and political reforms, Mikhail Gorbachev withstands severe criticisms from his opponents and is re-elected head of the Soviet Communist Party by an overwhelming margin. Gorbachev's victory was short-lived, however, as the Soviet Union collapsed in late 1991.

## What Teachers Do During Summer Vacation

► From *Killeen Daily Herald*

KILLEEN, Texas—Second- and third-graders at Iduma Elementary's summer school have it all figured out. They know exactly what their teachers do during the summer.

"They take a long, long vacation with their parents," said one second-grader. Her classmates chimed in with their agreement.

Third-graders decided teachers probably do everything together, from planning

for the next year to light relaxation.

"Sometimes, a teacher calls another teacher, and they eat pizza or go to the beach," one student said.

In May, more than 2,500 Killeen-area teachers were let loose to enjoy two months of freedom. Some teachers fled for spots more exotic, like Costa Rica and Australia.

About 500 teachers and administrators dove right into

summer school. About 1,500 teachers will reverse roles this summer and take professional development courses. Many more will head back into the halls of academia to finish advanced degrees.

Teachers will use their long vacations to do everything the rest of us do — work, play, study. But whether they're on a tractor, standing over a massage table or caught in a whirlwind of kids, they're still teachers.

## Exhibit Connects Urban Visitors to Rural Nostalgia

► From *The Oregonian*

The family farm exhibit, run by teens, provides a glimpse of what for most Oregonians is a thing of the past

For many adults, a first glimpse of the Oregon Zoo's new Trillium Creek Family Farm sparks a ripple of nostalgia.

For most teens and children, it marks an unfamiliar adventure.

The exhibit, which opens Saturday, is meant to bridge the generation gap between those who milked cows as a chore and those whose only bovine association is the milk that washes down the morning cereal.

"We want to connect people with the fact that Oregon has agricultural roots," said Charis Henrie, the zoo's education program coordinator. "More and more, our visitors are pretty urban."

The 18,000-square-foot exhibit mimics a Century Farm, a designation from the Oregon



*The Oregonian*

**ZooTeen volunteer Amanda Brown, 15, holds a rabbit for Elizabeth Zegzula, 6, to pet Thursday at the Oregon Zoo's new Trillium Creek Family Farm exhibit. The traditional farm opens this weekend with special events.**

Historical Society for farms that have been in a family for at least 100 years. Nearly 1,000 Oregon farms are enrolled in the program.

Zoo visitors can pet rabbits and ducks, coax Shetland sheep to their sides and watch Pygora goats gobble food pellets. Most of the action for the exhibit's 11 breeds takes place on the

wooden porch of a traditional farmhouse and inside a cavernous barn.

Zoo officials think the family farm will be the only exhibit in the country run completely by teenagers.

Volunteers from the summer ZooTeen program care for the animals and describe them to visitors.

## Washington Trio Making Waves at Olympic Trials

► From *The News Tribune*

LONG BEACH, Calif. - As just tiny tadpoles, Megan Quann and the Kirk sisters, Tara and Dana, took swim lessons together at a pool in Bremerton.

Must have had a good teacher.

On Thursday, the three splashed around in a somewhat higher-profile venue - the U.S. Olympic Swim Trials.

They met with mixed results as Dana Kirk placed fourth in the 100-meter butterfly, missing her first shot at making the travel manifest for the Athens Games. She still has her specialty, the 200 fly, remaining, however.

Older sister Tara had a breakout effort in the semifinals of the 100-meter breaststroke, registering the fastest time heading into the finals.

And for Puyallup's Megan Quann, the defense of her Olympic gold medal in the 100 breast will require swimming uphill, as she's fourth going into this evening's finals.

For a day, at least, the focus of attention at the trials was aimed elsewhere than upon Michael Phelps. Phelps didn't win anything Thursday. Only because he was not involved in any finals. He did manage to clock the fastest semifinal time in the 200-meter freestyle.

While Brendan Hansen's world record in the men's 100 breaststroke will draw most of the day's headlines, Tara Kirk attracted some attention, too.

She brought the fourth-fastest time out of the prelims, and in the semifinals looked down the pool at a lineup that easily could have been worthy of the finals in any meet.

Next to her was Amanda Beard, with Quann just one more lane away.

"It was an amazing field," she said. "I was swimming it like it was a finals, but I knew I had to be better (tonight)."

Quann was almost a second behind Kirk, with Beard and Staciana Stitts, who had the fastest time in the event's preliminaries, also beating her to the wall.



AP

**Tara Kirk of Bremerton makes a big splash at the U.S. Olympic Swim Trials, recording the fastest semifinal time in the 100-meter breaststroke.**

The Kirk sisters claim they're physically unable to watch the other swim if they also have to compete that day. Both contend that their nerves get so agitated they become nauseous.

After the morning preliminaries, Quann said she liked the pool and was energized by the big crowds - the evening session drew almost a full house with a capacity listed at 10,000.

"The atmosphere and just being here is so exciting," Quann said. "We're not used to the big crowd. Swimming doesn't usually get this much attention."



scores as of July 9  
8:15 p.m. PDT

### AMERICAN LEAGUE

Detroit 5  
Minnesota 3

Chicago 6  
Seattle 2

Boston 7  
Texas 0

Cleveland 5  
Oakland 4

New York 5  
Tampa Bay 4

Anaheim 5  
Toronto 4

Kansas City 7  
Baltimore 0

### NATIONAL LEAGUE

Cincinnati 3  
Milwaukee 0

Pittsburgh 11  
Montreal 0 (@Puerto Rico)

Philadelphia 7 (10 innings)  
Atlanta 6

New York 6  
Florida 3

St. Louis 6  
Chicago 1

Colorado  
@ San Diego

Houston  
@ Los Angeles

Arizona  
@ San Francisco

TV GUIDE	AFN ATLANTIC	AFN PACIFIC	AFN Sports	AFN Spectrum
6 p.m.	Law & Order	Saturday Night Live ('03-'04) 5:30 p.m.	ESPNews/ I, Max	Wings of the Dove 5 p.m.
7 p.m.	Headline News/ Navy/Marine Corps News	Kickin' It	SportsCenter	The View
8 p.m.	ESPNews/ This Week in Baseball	AMA Motocross	U.S. Olympic Trials	Burt Wolf's Local Flavors/ A Makeover Story
9 p.m.	MLB - Chicago Cubs @ St. Louis Cardinals	AMA Motocross	Real Sports with Bryant Gumbel	Airline/ Airline
10 p.m.	The Apprentice	ESPNews/ Wire to Wire	NASCAR Busch Series - Twister 300	Trading Spaces