



# Ironhorse Desert News

## Operation Iraqi Freedom



25 August 2003

*“Steadfast & Loyal”*

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### Soldiers Rebuild Schools and Clinic in Taji

*Story by CPL Vernon O'Donnell*

TAJI, Iraq – The process of rebuilding Iraq's damaged infrastructure is ceaseless for the coalition soldiers in Taji, Iraq. Troops from the 418<sup>th</sup> Civil Affairs Battalion and TaskForce Ironhorse continue to oversee and coordinate the repairs for clinics and schools as part of Taskforce Gunner in the DIVARTY area of operations.

“Most of the damage is due to thirty years of neglect towards the Iraqi people,” said SPC Cliff Austin, a civil affairs specialist.

The soldiers are currently supervising construction on two schools and one clinic. The process is cumbersome due to the wide array of tasks entailed in the rebuilding.

“First we had to secure funds for the projects from within the Task Force,” said SPC Grant Montney, who was in charge of the work on the clinic. “Then we had local companies put in bids for the work and made sure we would have enough money to cover the contracts.”



Now the clinic can serve about 75 people a day making the process of receiving medical assistance more viable to the people of Taji.

“There were some delays in getting the clinic open because of the sporadic electricity,” said Montney. “Also, we

had to work on getting the clinic registered with the Ministry of Health.”

According to Montney, once the clinic becomes registered, it starts to receive free medicine and it is staffed by certified doctors. This is vital for the stability of small clinics to become a part of the ministry and receive the fiscal aid. The long-term stability of the region is dependent upon the reopening of repaired clinics and schools.

The whole process of rebuilding the schools and the clinic has taken a little over two months; with a plan to have the schools finished at least a month before class starts in October. Once these projects are completed, the civil affairs teams will move onto the repair of other schools, clinics, and buildings in the area. The team from the 418<sup>th</sup> Civil Affairs Battalion is constantly working to improve the infrastructure in Taji, but the sense of satisfaction gained from completing the job keeps the soldiers going.

“You feel like you did something good; something that will last and benefit a lot of people,” said PVT Chris Fromm, the director of one of the school sites. “I just wish we could do more.”

After finding a contractor, the civil affairs team hired two companies, Nassar and Al Samoud, and the actual construction began. According to Austin, most of the buildings were in such disrepair that all of the floors, walls, electrical wiring and roofs had to be completely redone at all three sites.



SPC Austin discusses progress with contractor.

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# Task Force News

Story by MAJ Brian Bennett, SGS, and MSG Dave Johnson.

Photos by MSG Dave Johnson

FORWARD OPERATING BASE IRONHORSE, TIKRIT, Iraq -- General Peter Schoomaker, the Chief of Staff of the Army, visited TaskForce Iron Horse Headquarters to receive an operational overview from the Task Force and 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division commander, MG Raymond Odierno, and meet brigade combat team commanders.

The Commanding General covered the Task Force's mission, the array of forces stretching across an enormous area of operations, and the numerous operations TF Ironhorse has conducted over the past four months.

The Chief of Staff of the Army participated in a brief press conference. Reporters from various news agencies asked questions pertaining to the mission and hunt for Saddam Hussein.

"We are committed to fulfilling our obligation here and making Iraq safe for Coalition soldiers and the Iraqi people," said Schoomaker. "I am impressed with everything I've seen from our soldiers here. The soldiers have done a tremendous job with rebuilding efforts," he added.

"We're making life very difficult for Saddam Hussein," said Odierno. "I believe he's having to move every four hours or so to avoid capture."

After the press conference, Schoomaker passed out coins to deserving TF Ironhorse soldiers before departing to visit TF 1-66 Armor, near Samarra and TF 1-8 Infantry, near Balad.

Having the chance to see TF Ironhorse soldiers across the AO, Schoomaker was impressed by both the high morale of the soldiers and their creativity in developing their living and working areas.



Taskforce Ironhorse soldiers who received coins from the Chief of Staff pose with him, MG Odierno and CSM Fuss.

## Soldiers and Iraqis Rebuild Hospital

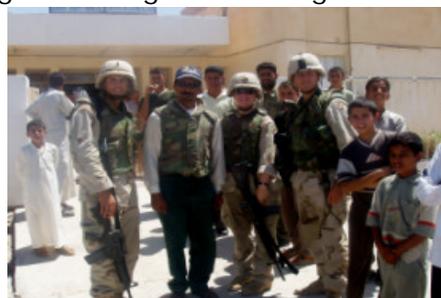
Story by MAJ Josselyn Aberle

Soldiers from 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, 3-16 Field Artillery Battalion, along with hospital workers and community leaders, took part in an opening ceremony for the Ar Rashidiya Hospital on August 2. The hospital is located in the Ar Rashidiya community north of Baghdad, and was formerly known as the Hammad Shihab Hospital.

The facility was once the biggest and best-equipped hospital in Baghdad until it was ravaged and gutted by looters during the war. Initially, the 3-16<sup>th</sup> FA Battalion set up its headquarters in the destroyed hospital, but after meeting with doctors and community leaders who emphasized the critical need for health care in the area, they decided to help restore the hospital.

Soldiers began rehabilitating the hospital by reconnecting its power and water systems. Using battalion money, soldiers bought and installed generators for the site. With the help of Dr. Tariq Jawad Khadim, a hospital surgeon, they hired engineers to fix the first floor of the hospital. Workers repaired windows, walls, ceilings, and doors and painted the hallways.

The project represents three months of work and is a combined effort of soldiers and 65 employees



From L-R: 1LT Whitaker 3-16, Awda-translator, SGT Fitzsimmons Civil Affairs Rep, SGT Reep 3-16.

and eight separate contractors. Now a portion of the hospital is capable of being used to treat patients. The reconstruction of the entire hospital will cost approximately three million dollars and will be done with coalition funds.

Since opening the emergency room six weeks ago, Iraqi doctors and U.S. Army medical personnel have treated over 50 emergency cases. Members of 3-16 Field Artillery Battalion, Imam Hussein, a high-ranking Baghdad Shia Imam, and about 150 other people, including local sheiks, the Ar Rashidiya mayor, and police chief attended the opening ceremony.

The event demonstrated the positive impact that coalition soldiers and Iraqi citizens working together can have on a community.

# Task Force News

## Keeping Cool Under the Sun

*Story and photos by SSG Craig Pickett*

Taji, Iraq — Most soldiers toiling under the hot Iraqi sun desire one thing – to go home. Second to a trip home is an ice-cold drink to quench their never-ending thirst and take the edge off a hot day. Going home will eventually come, but ice is here now, and in abundance for the soldiers of Task Force Ironhorse.

Recently, members of 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Artillery (DIVARTY) opened an ice factory that produces the solid elixir, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It is conveniently located on Taji Air Base where thousands of soldiers have access to the cool treat.

The project began in mid-July, when it was decided the old, gutted factory would be returned to its original state. The Army had been purchasing ice from the local economy to try to offset the relentless effects of the sun. When they realized they had the makings of their own ice factory on the air base, key leaders of Task Force Gunner saw a win-win opportunity for the soldiers and the Iraqi citizens.

The project began by looking for contractors to refurbish, operate and maintain the facility. Then the arduous task of putting the pieces back together started. The building had been looted and much of the electrical components pilfered.

"There were not any hard parts to get," said SSG Jeffrey Sherk, noncommissioned officer-in-charge of the factory and member of 2-20 Field Artillery. "It ran pretty smooth. There was not much of a language barrier either, since most of the (contractors) spoke English."

In only a month's time, the building has a fresh coat of paint and one side of the factory is producing up to 1,200 blocks of ice a day. Soon, these blocks will be safe for consumption. Army Reserve soldiers from Mesa, Ariz. are operating a mobile water purification station outside the doors of the factory. Members of the 751<sup>st</sup> Quartermaster Company are working hard to provide the factory with potable water.



"We filled their storage tanks with hypo-chlorinated water," said SGT Anthony Reid, with the 751<sup>st</sup>. "The water has a high concentration of chlorine to kill bacteria. Once we flush the system, we will start making potable water for them."

With everyone working toward the same goal, a fully functional icehouse, relationships developed and bonds were created between the soldiers and the Iraqi workers.

Through a translator, the chief engineer, Gazi Fysal, said he was very glad because of the factory. He said it would be useful for both the Iraqi citizens and the coalition forces. He added very proudly, that after the coalition forces go home, it will be for the Iraqi people.

Both Gazi and Saadon Ubid, the facility manager, expressed the fact they were glad the Americans were here. They echoed each other in saying not all Iraqis are bad; many want to help the coalition troops and see their country restored.

"We were very glad to have the soldiers working close with us," Ubid said. "They never got frustrated with us. It has been very good."

"I feel like I have a new family," added Sherk. "The people have opened their arms and welcomed us in."

This camaraderie can be seen in the working relationships that have been established. The Iraqis are quick to offer cigarettes or tea to visiting soldiers and always have a smile to share. In turn, the soldiers picking up ice are grateful for their efforts and the work that goes into it.

SEE ICE, PAGE 4



Above: SSG Daniel Welch of the 751<sup>st</sup> Quartermaster Company loads ice from the factory onto a 5-ton truck.  
Left: Local Iraqi workers dip ice into warm water in preparation for dumping and finalizing the ice-making process.

# Task Force News

## He Makes the Signs that Direct Soldiers

Story and photos by SSG Craig Pickett

FORWARD OPERATING BASE IRONHORSE, TIKRIT, Iraq -- Everywhere you go, you will either find a sign or a need for one. FOB Ironhorse is no different. It is home to roughly 3,000 soldiers of Task Force Ironhorse while they are deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

With many units occupying the former palatial grounds of Saddam Hussein, some type of identification was needed to distinguish units and show their locations. This is where SGT Sergio Balcazar, HHC, 4ID, stepped in with his computer-driven plotter and went to work.

Balcazar, who found the idle plotter two years ago, has been learning the software on his own. The CAMM-1 Roland plotter uses a small knife to cut letters or designs in adhesive vinyl. Previously, he has only used it to make names for the windshield of vehicles, an Army standard to have the driver's name and rank on the windshield.

With a need for informational and directional signs, Balcazar delved deep into the sign-making world. Armed with his limited knowledge of

computer programming and sign-making and a high desire to learn, he has already constructed hundreds of signs for various places around the base.

Balcazar said feedback has been positive and the more people see his work, the more signs they want. His once part-time hobby is quickly turning into a full-time occupation.

"The hardest part is putting it on the boards," he said. That is because he does not have the right equipment for the job.

He has been using masking tape to apply the graphics. This is a tedious task, and the masking tape is too sticky to do the job properly. In sign shops around the world, this task is accomplished with transfer tape, a low tack tape that comes in varying widths up to 48 inches.

Balcazar would like to order the right materials to make his job easier, along with different colored vinyl. He only has black, but would like to add green and white to his inventory.

Who knows? Next it could be yellow or even blue. As his skills grow, so does his ambition and the informational signage at FOB Ironhorse.



Left: SGT Balcazar plots a sign. Right: One of his signs reminds soldiers to clear their weapons when entering FOB Ironhorse.



ICE, FROM PAGE 3

The factory not only helps employ local Iraqis and boost their economy, it saves the Army money and supplies a needed boost to sun-baked soldiers.

Without ice, their water becomes hot and unpleasant to drink, and almost hot enough to make coffee or tea. Providing ice to cool down is just one way to improve the quality of life for the troops.

"It improves morale," said Clark. "Before, a very limited amount of ice was available. We are soldiers

and we can accept what we are given, but this makes a difference. It really makes a difference."

Work on the factory is not yet complete.

The future holds a refrigerated storage facility to house the ice and a distribution system to take it to the far reaches of TaskForce Ironhorse. Ice has quickly become a combat-multiplier; keeping soldiers cool as they provide a secure and stable environment for Iraqi citizens.

# Task Force News

## Stress Relief Available

*Story by SGT Gabe Nix*

FORWARD OPERATING BASE IRONHORSE, TIKRIT, Iraq -- Doctor, doctor give me the news, I've got a bad case of desert blues. The song may often be sung silently by soldiers; but when soldiers do sing out loud, it is often to the 85<sup>th</sup> Medical Detachment, 1<sup>st</sup> Medical Brigade based out of Fort Hood, Texas.

"Many soldiers keep stress-related issues to themselves," says CPT Mark Houck, Clinical Psychologist and team leader for the combat stress team. "There's a stigma attached, that a soldier is not strong if he comes to us for help."

Soldiers deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom face many stressful situations as they carry out missions. Factors that cause stress include working and living in high temperatures, constantly being surrounded by the same people, day in and day out, combat and the strain of being separated from loved ones.

Stress may lead to depression and self-recognition of symptoms is a key for a soldier to seek help.

"Feeling depressed for more than a short period of time, on edge, not feeling yourself, and not being able to focus are indications you may be suffering from combat stress," said Houck.

According to Houck, additional indications a soldier is suffering from combat stress include: increased heartbeat, high blood pressure, upset stomach, lack of sleep, irritability, thousand-yard stare, and bad dreams.

Commanders and noncommissioned officers can recognize signs of stress in their soldiers and intervene. Easy remedies to apply are good hygiene, proper eating, encourage more sleep, drink plenty of water and physical training.

If routine therapy does not work, there are teams located throughout the Ironhorse area of operations to help soldiers when they need it. The headquarters and fitness teams are located at FOB Speicher and a prevention team is located at each of the four brigades.

The teams work to prevent stress, teach stress-reducing techniques soldiers can apply to themselves and when needed, offer counseling or refer soldiers to chaplains or physicians.

"We work together to prevent normal stress reactions during combat situations from becoming overwhelming," said Houck.

The combat stress team accomplishes this by briefing before critical events, and debriefing after traumatic events.

Networking facilitates more willingness for soldiers to come forward. "Soldiers are more comfortable, more willing to come when they are

having problems as a result of networking," said CPL Kristi Wyckhuys, noncommissioned officer in charge of the prevention team. "No matter where the combat stress team works with soldiers, they help them cope with the stress of combat. When I know I've taken a soldier who is really struggling, and help him feel his usual self, get back on track, that is incredibly rewarding."

## The Red Cross Can Help

*Story by Master Sgt. Dave Johnson*

FORWARD OPERATING BASE IRONHORSE, TIKRIT, Iraq -- The Army uses many agencies to help soldiers and their families during a crisis. The Red Cross comes to mind first for many soldiers.

"Think of the Red Cross as a resource," said CPT Anton Ciomperlik, Assistant Division Chaplain for 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division.

The Red Cross can assist soldiers getting home if there is an emergency with a family member.

Before a soldier gets to go home, though, an emergency must exist. The agency will verify there is a crisis and, if necessary, make arrangements to secure transportation. Emergency leave normally is only granted if the crisis involves a member of the soldier's immediate family, but there are exceptions.

"If the family member is what we call 'Local Parentis,' this may also qualify a soldier to take emergency leave," added Ciomperlik. "Local Parentis is where another member of a soldier's family has taken him in, say an aunt or uncle or grandparent, and raised him.

Another factor that influences commanders' decisions regarding whether or not to grant emergency leave is a medical opinion. Soldiers' families may complete a health and welfare form and turn it in to the Red Cross. If a medical doctor recommends the soldier return home, that could influence the commander's decision.

In certain cases, ordinary leave may be granted by a commander if the soldier does not qualify for emergency leave. In that case, the Red Cross or Army Emergency Relief may assist in acquiring funds to facilitate getting a soldier home. Sometimes the funds must be repaid, though. An agency can work with soldiers to set-up allotments.

Soldiers and their families can aid the process by completing forms with their Red Cross. "I encourage soldiers or their family members to fill out a health and welfare request form if they deem it necessary," said Ciomperlik. This gets the action started.

When crises arise, help is available and just as close a phone call or visit to the Red Cross.

# Task Force News

## Soldiers, Iraqis Work to Repair Bridge

Story and photos by SPC Derek Dexter

BAYJI, Iraq -- The blistering Iraqi sun blazed down on the glistening water of the Tigris River in yet another hot summer day. What was different about this day was the ceremony commencing the opening of the only bridge crossing the Tigris for 100 kilometers in the Taskforce Irohorse area of operations.

Rebuilding the Buffalo Soldier Bridge, named after the 1/10 Cavalry Squadron, was the first joint operation between local Iraqi contractors and the 14<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion out of Fort Hood, Texas. The 1-10 CAV was the first unit to enter the Tikrit area.

"The project is critical for both U.S. and civilian traffic. This is a highly visible project," said CPT Daniel L. Cederman, the S-3 officer for the engineers. "We had civilians driving on the bypass everyday, and they knew we were doing good work."

The repairing of the bridge started out as a means to get the 1/10 Cav's M1A1 Abrams Main Battle Tank across the Tigris, said Cederman.

After the 14<sup>th</sup> finished the bypass, a temporary solution, they found out civilians would use the bridge for commerce. The engineers then looked around and found local contractors who would help to rebuild the bridge, Cederman said.

A pool of 20 laborers came together to help a platoon of 14th soldiers with the construction. According to Cederman, at any given time, 12 Iraqis would be out working on the bridge alongside soldiers.

The entire bridge reconstruction mission took about 45 days, said Cederman. He added the foreman would change, based on what needed to be done that day. An Iraqi or a U.S. soldier would be in charge of production for the day.

U.S. forces told the local contractors how they wanted the causeway to be rebuilt. Cederman said the contractors proposed many different suggestions, most of which were used. In his speech during the ceremony, COL Christopher Toomey, commander of the 555<sup>th</sup> Engineer Group, said this was the only bridge across the Tigris, but

a bridge crossing the chasm between U.S. soldiers and Iraqis.

This mission is just the first of over a dozen missions the 14<sup>th</sup> Engineers are working on, according to Cederman. Others include water purification plants, schools for both boys and girls, and digging new wells.

"We're doing a water treatment plant in the town of Zimarah, which is our biggest and most important mission right now for civil infrastructure improvement," said Cederman. "It will get filtered water to 15,000 people who are currently drinking unfiltered water and are having a large problem with dysentery in that town."

The completion the Buffalo Soldier Bridge is just one of many projects for U.S. soldiers continuing to help rebuild and stabilize Iraq. This and many other projects is a sign to Iraq that U.S. soldiers are here to help.

"This is the first mission we did which showed the Iraqis that no, we're not here to shoot you, were actually here to help you rebuild," said Cederman. "All we want to do is rebuild your country, make it stable. So, you can run your country and then we can go home."



Soldiers from 14<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion, 555<sup>th</sup> Engineer Group and local Iraqis cut the ribbon to open the Buffalo Soldier Bridge.

## New Parking Policy at Division Main

Effective 25 August, parking passes will be issued to individuals, not vehicles. LTC/O5 and CSM/E9 and civilians approved by IH5 will receive a permanent pass. Work vehicles (sanitation and supply trucks) will be permitted to sign in at the TCP (transportation control point) to enter. Parking for vehicles not authorized entrance to D-Main is at the adjacent parking lot.

Rotating personnel for shift changes will drop personnel at the top of the hill, D-Main, and return to the 1-22 Inf parking I Shift workers will be transported from top of the hill at D-Main to 1-22 parking area to transport personnel coming off shift.

# Task Force News

## EO Office Celebrates Women's Equality Day

By SFC Michael Wiedel

FORWARD OPERATING BASE IRONHORSE, TIKRIT, Iraq -- There will be a slide show posted in the main lobby of the Division Main palace on August 26<sup>th</sup> to commemorate Women's Equality Day.

Taskforce Ironhorse will acknowledge significant days throughout the year, recognized by the Equal Opportunity office.

Women's Equality Day is celebrated because on August 26th, 1920, the 19th Amendment to the United States Constitution, which granted women the right to vote, was ratified. This was the culmination of the long struggle by women searching for the right to vote. In 1971, the U.S. Congress designated August 26th as Women's Equality Day to commemorate the passage of the 19th Amendment and to celebrate women's continuing efforts toward equality.

We celebrate this event to honor the tremendous, positive change brought on by the Women's Movement. Due to the countless millions of women who planned, organized, lectured, wrote, petitioned, lobbied, paraded and broke new ground in every field imaginable, our world is irrevocably changed. Women and men of our generation, and the ones to follow us, are living the legacy of the women's rights won against staggering odds in a revolution achieved without violence. Women can be proud of the legacy of the Women's Rights Movement.

### Movie Schedule

Movies are shown at the Soldiers' Inn.

**Movie times are 11 am, 2 pm and 8 pm respectively**

Aug 25th: Con-Air, Daredevil, 007 Die Another Day

Aug 26th: Terminator 2, Lord of the Rings Fellowship, Blade II

Aug 27th: Gone in 60 Seconds, Spiderman, Tears of the Sun

Aug 28th: Batman, The Recruit, Resident Evil

Aug 29th: Happy Gilmore, South Park, Basic

Aug 30th: Daredevil, Phone Booth, X Men 2

\*\* Titles and Times subject to change

**R&R Center begins nightly dance parties at 9 pm**  
**Uniform is DCUs unless on official R&R**

## Local Announcements

**Combat Stress Team**  
is available at the Aid Station.

Call 534-0161

**Post Office Update**  
Soldiers must wrap rugs before bringing them to the post office. Use a trash bag or box.

### 4ID Band's Rock Band

Will perform Monday evening, 25 August, at the main stage by old Division Main area, at 7 pm.

Labor Day concert is SEP 5<sup>th</sup>, 7 PM, at the old D-Main stage. Traditional music will be played.

### Religious Services at FOB Ironhorse

#### Sunday:

9:30 a.m.-- Protestant

11:00 a.m.-- Gospel

Noon-- LDS

1:00-- Catholic

#### Wednesday:

6:30 p.m.--Prayer & Praise

7:00 p.m.- Bible Study

#### Friday:

7:30 p.m.- Jewish

12:25 p.m.- Muslim

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Ironhorse Desert News Staff : Task Force Ironhorse PAO: Lt. Col. Bill MacDonald; DPAO: Maj. Josslyn Aberle; Editor: Cpt Allen Hansen; PAO Sgt Maj : Master Sgt Dave Johnson; Contributors: Staff Sgt. Craig Pickett; Staff Sgt Aaron Salzer; Sgt Ryan Sills; Sgt. Gabe Nix; Cpl. Vernon O'Donnell; Spc. Derek Dexter; Spc Joseph Norton; Spc Robert Kutruff; Spc Rhea Anderegg; Pfc Brian Smith, Pfc Jason Phillips, Combat Camera  
Contact PAO at DMAIN for comments, questions or contributions, 534-9808 or 4ID\_PAO@id4.army.smil.mil or tfironhorsepao@yahoo.com

# News Briets

MONTGOMERY, Ala. -- Alabama's chief justice has been suspended for refusing to obey a federal court order to remove a Ten Commandments monument from the rotunda of the state judicial building.

REUTERS -- Computer security experts thwarted an attack by computer worm Sobig.F on Friday just as the FBI subpoenaed an Arizona Internet service provider in order to trace the fast-spreading virus experts believe was first posted on an adult-oriented Web site.

HUNTINGTON BEACH, Calif -- Arnold Schwarzenegger received a hero's welcome in this beach town on Friday, thrilling hundreds of swimsuit-clad admirers and winning endorsements for his gubernatorial bid from a Republican congressman and key fund-raisers.

YAHOO -- It is news when Grandpa rockers miss shows, but it is amazing they can still play at all. Mick Jagger and Ozzy Osbourne are a combined 114 years old. Jagger's flu bug scotched a Rolling Stones gig in London and Ozzy's whatever caused him to miss a show recently. However, Ozzy returned to OZZFest in Washington D.C. on Friday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>.

A Census report out today indicates that the "white flight" of the early 1990s is not so white anymore. Who is moving out of (or into) your state? Immigrants are doing what other Americans have been doing: They're leaving crowded and expensive states such as California and New York in search of better opportunities in the booming Sun Belt.

## SPORTS ZONE

**PRO FOOTBALL** -- Cleveland -- The Quarterback controversy is over. Kelly Holcomb has replaced Tim Couch as the starter. Could another Kentucky QB be in the Browns' future? The 'Hefty Lefty,' aka 'Pillsbury Throwboy' who weighed in at 315 pounds, may play other positions than QB. FB? TE? DE?

Atlanta -- QB Michael Vick will not need surgery on his broken right leg. The Falcons are hopeful to have him back in the lineup in less than eight weeks.

San Francisco -- QB Jeff Garcia led the 49ers to a 27-12 win over New Orleans, but TE Eric Johnson was lost in the game to a broken collar bone.

NY Jets -- QB Chad Pennington injured his left in a pre-season game Saturday night. He is out indefinitely.

**COLLEGE FOOTBALL** -- 2002 National Champion Ohio State will be without running back Maurice Clarett when they open the season. He was suspended for 'multiple games.'

Michigan defensive back Marlin Jackson, preseason defensive player of the year for the Big Ten, has been suspended for one game. Two Florida Gator linebackers have been suspended for off-field fights. Channing Crowder and Taurean Charles will not be playing football anytime soon. The Oklahoma Sooners will start the upcoming football season rated # 1.

**BASEBALL** -- The New York Yankees continue to lead the American League East with a 73-48 record, six games ahead of Boston. The Central Division is led by Chicago, one game up on surprise team Kansas City and 1.5 games up on Minnesota. The West is led by Seattle, three games up on Oakland.

The American League Wild Card race is a tie between Boston and Oakland with 36 games remaining.

The National League East is led by Atlanta, Philadelphia a distant second. The Central Division is baseball's hottest race where Houston leads the Chicago Cubs by a half game, and St. Louis by one game. The West is led by San Francisco, well ahead of the LA Dodgers.

The race for the Wildcard in the National League has four teams all within a couple games of each other: Philadelphia, followed by LA, the Cubs and the Cardinals are all in the hunt to play in October.

On a sad baseball note, Bobby Bonds, father of slugger Barry, died August 23<sup>rd</sup>. He was 57. Bobby was the first player to hit 30 HR and steal 30 bases in the same season. He accomplished that while playing for Cleveland. He was noted as one of the first players to combine speed with power.

**TENNIS** -- Venus Williams withdrew from the U.S. Open. Each of the past four U.S. Opens ended with a Williams sister hoisting the women's trophy.