



Ironhorse Desert News



Bridge pushes on despite challenges

Story by Staff Sgt. Liana Mayo

FORWARD OPERATING BASE IRONHORSE, Tikrit, Iraq—On a crisp November evening, as shadows stretched along the banks of the Tigris River, six soldiers from the 652nd Assault Float Bridge Engineer Company, climbed out of their multi-purpose boat and fanned out along the cliff.

While some pulled security, others pushed through the tall reeds along the river's edge to retrieve a pontoon that had escaped its restraints when the river rose the night before.

Aptly named, Rugged Bypass is a major floating bridge construction project near the city of Tikrit that began more than two months ago. When completed later this year, it will be the longest pontoon bridge built by Coalition forces in northern Iraq.

The bridge will be 340 meters long, or more than 1,000 feet, and will stretch past both banks and onto the causeways. The pontoon span is meant to handle rerouted traffic when a permanent bridge in Tikrit is closed for repairs.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Liana Mayo

Members of the 74th Multi-Role Bridge Company, based in Fort Hood, Texas, position a section of floating bridge that will soon span a portion of the Tigris River south of Tikrit, Iraq.

The 652nd, an Army Reserve unit from Ellsworth, Wis., is one of a handful of units collaborating on the Rugged Bypass project that, when done, will feature a floating bridge that spans

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Firing range offers practice, dose of reality

Story by Spc. Samuel Soza

FORWARD OPERATING BASE IRONHORSE, TIKRIT, Iraq – “Dismounts on the left,” said the assistant driver of the



Photo by Spc. Samuel Soza

Spc. Stuart Dorado of the 104th Military Intelligence Battalion, is mounted in the rear Humvee during a live fire exercise at a moving operations range.

lead Humvee into a hand-held radio.

Immediately a soldier, manning the squad automatic weapon mounted atop the vehicle, opened fire on the targets as the warning of contact is echoed backward to the rest of the convoy.

Wooden targets are peppered with bullets.

Though such encounters occur frequently, this action is simulated – all part of a moving operations range set up by the General Support Detachment, a part of the 418th Civil Affairs

Battalion, an Army Reserve unit based in Bolten, Mo.

The range was designed to introduce soldiers to the sights and sounds of a moving convoy, as many soldiers are not exposed to firing while moving and in full gear.

“We set up the range to break that ice,” said Sgt. 1st Class Timothy B. Berger, native of Kansas City, Mo., the detachment sergeant for the 418th. “It’s just one more thing to get them trained up – ready for the real deal when it happens.”

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Improvised armor adds protection, safety

Story by Spc. Melissa Walther

BAGHDAD, Iraq – As convoys throughout Iraq continue to come under attack, some soldiers are adding additional protection in the form of innovative armor plating on their vehicles.

Members of the 358th Civil Affairs Brigade weren't satisfied with relying on sandbags to fortify their vehicles so they are installing armor kits that were designed by U.S. military personnel and constructed by local Iraqi contractors.

Consisting of a nine-piece kit made of steel plates six millimeters thick, the armor includes steel doors, roof and walls for the bed of the vehicle as well as steel plates for the floor. Weighing 500 pounds, the kits cost about \$1,000 each, making them much cheaper than up-armored Humvees, which have yet to be distributed to many units in Iraq.

"I'd rather take an up-armored Humvee outside the gates than a regular one," said Staff Sgt. Ricky White, a unit mechanic with the 358th and a Wilmington, Del. resident.

Up-armored Humvees, which are now being manufactured in the U.S., feature armor



Photo by Spc. Melissa Walther

An Iraqi worker in Baghdad welds steel plates together, as part of an improvised armor kit for a Humvee. components that help repel grenades, improvised explosive devices and small arms fire.

Until they become widely available, every little bit of protection is welcome.

"We feel a little safer with the kits," said Staff Sgt. Roman Moreno, the noncommissioned officer in charge of special functions for the 358th, an Army Reserve unit based in Norristown, Pa.

The kits bolt to the vehicle's frame of the vehicle and installation takes only a few hours. Originally available from a contractor in Baghdad,

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Soldiers with a SIPRnet connection and valid user ID and log-on can access the Ironhorse Desert News.

Most SIPRnet computers have the 4th ID splash-page set as their homepage. From there, soldiers can select the **digital dashboard** link.

After entering their user-name and password, soldiers are presented with different section selections.

Click on the link, "**Division Staff**" and then "**PAO**".

From there, a heading labeled "Newspaper" will appear. By right clicking the link and opening the link in a new window, soldiers can read the latest edition.

Steadfast and Loyal



Photo by Spc. Samuel Soza

Sgt. Abelardo Galogos Jr., a native of El Paso, Texas and a radio access unit team chief with the 534th Signal Co., lifts dumbbells at the new gym that opened in November at the Task Force Ironhorse Resort.



NGO conference sparks interest in Ironhorse area

Story by Spc. Samuel Soza

FORWARD OPERATING BASE IRONHORSE, TIKRIT, Iraq – Delegates of nearly twenty nongovernmental and international organizations met with military and community leaders Nov. 29 and 30 in the Salah Ad Din province to discuss plans to jumpstart the economy in the Taskforce Ironhorse area of operation.

The goal of the conference was to link the different groups with Iraqi businesses in effort to stimulate the local economy, while addressing the needs of the Iraqi people, said Lt. Col. Wayne A. Steltz, native of Virginia Beach, Va., the operations officer in the 358th Civil Affairs Battalion out of Norristown, Pa.

“The NGO’s and IO’s role is in pursuit of their individual mission in context of the country’s needs,” said Lt. Col. Michael J. Keller, a native of Plainview, Texas and public health team officer for the 358th.

The two-day conference began with a tour of the NGO House – a new facility to be used as living quarters and office spaces for the nongovernmental and international groups. The groups will operate in the Task Force Ironhorse area, which includes three provinces in northern Iraq.

In September, the Beirut Construction Co. began renovating the building, which was damaged during the war, at a cost of \$90,000, according to Maj. Derek A. Jordan, the direct support detachment commander

for the 418th Civil Affairs Battalion.

“It still needs minor maintenance,” said Jordan, who is from Kansas City, Mo.

Major Gen. Raymond Odierno, 4th Infantry Division commander, addressed the conference members on the second day, as well

as Andrew Bearpark, director of operations for the Coalition Provisional Authority.

One NGO that has already made inroads into Iraq is the Freedom and Peace Trust, headquartered in Boston, Mass.

The organization has already donated \$1 million in pharmaceutical and medical supplies that will be distributed throughout the Task Force Ironhorse area of operation.

The Boston outfit is the first NGO to establish a presence in the cities of Balad and Samarra, according to Wasseem Kabbara, the Freedom and Peace Trust representative.

The Freedom and Peace Trust is a nonprofit corporation that’s mission is to help victims suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder.

“This gathering was such an important step in furthering the Freedom and Peace Trust goal of improving the mental well being



Photo by Spc. Samuel Soza

Major Gen. Raymond Odierno talks with Coalition Provisional Authority Director of Operations Andrew Bearpark at a meet-and-greet dinner at Forward Operating Base Ironhorse, Tikrit, Iraq for nongovernmental and international organizations.

of the Iraqi population, the most neglected but yet the most fundamental and vital component towards rebuilding a successful democracy,” Kabbara said. “The conference certainly achieved its purpose.”

The US military will assume a support role by providing contact information and other data of areas where assistance is needed. However, NGOs and IOs will be self-sustaining with their own transportation and other resources, according to Keller.

He said the conference, which had been in the planning stages for six weeks, was a good first step in bringing progress to Iraq’s reconstruction.

“It was exciting to see the linkage between the NGO’s and IO’s and the Iraqis.” Keller said. “The realization in the face of the Iraqis that people want to come in and help them become self-ruled – to create a sound foundation and new regime.”



Dustoff percolates with java lovers

Story by Spc. Benjamin Kibbey

CAMP SPEICHER, Iraq – In addition to serving their country, four members of 57th Medevac Company are serving up coffee to members of their company and others at Camp Speicher.

The Java Dustoff, as the little shed on the edge of the flight line at Camp Speicher is known, was inspired by Sgt. John M. Aklan, a flight medic and native of Sacramento, Calif., who received a care package from his wife in early May.

Aklan recounts the day he received the package from home – the first since the 57th arrived in theater – in a short letter he posted on the wall of the makeshift coffeeshop, which mainly caters to the 4th Brigade Combat Team.

A flight medic, Aklan was deployed to an area of Iraq near the Jordanian border along with other members of B Forward Support Medevac Team when the idea of supplying fellow troops with a quality cup of Joe took hold.

“One day while sitting out on the Jordanian border, the forward deployed members of Bravo Forward Support Medevac Team were dying for a real cup of coffee,” Aklan wrote. “Neither chow hall nor MRE coffee would do. Then I came up with this little project to make the time pass. The Java Dustoff was born.”

The package from home contained whole bean coffee and a hand grinder, and though it took several hours to prepare, the first real cup of coffee in months was worth the wait, Aklan said.

That first pot spawned the motivation that led to the many cups brewed daily from a variety of brands and blends received in care packages and brought back by people who have gone on leave, said Staff Sgt. Michael Lombardo, a team sergeant and flight medic, and native of Columbus, Ohio.

Along with Sgt. Tony Pittman from Dexter, Ga., Chief Warrant Officer Kevin Herrick, a native of Pan Handle, Texas, Aklan and Lombardo set about making the coffee shop percolate.

The menu is extensive, offering Starbucks, Seattle’s Best, Millstone, Puerto Rican, Gevalia, Dallmayr and other brands, as well as espresso. Patrons can even consume energy drinks and



Photo by Spc. Benjamin Kibbey

From left, Sgt. John M. Aklan of Sacramento, Calif., Staff Sgt. Michael Lombardo of Columbus, Ohio, Sgt. Tony Pittman of Dexter, Ga., and Chief Warrant Officer Kevin Herrick of Pan Handle, Texas, stand behind the bar at the Java Dustoff, a coffee shop they built to serve fellow members of 57th Medevac Company at Camp Speicher, Iraq.

quality cigars.

“We serve the kind of stuff you can’t get in the PX,” Lombardo said.

The charges are minimal, just enough to cover costs, said Aklan.

With Christmas lights running along the ceiling and behind the sturdy bar, the line of coffee makers emanate enticing aromas. With chairs inherited from the company dining facility and a small TV high in one corner, the Java Dustoff – open in the mornings and evenings – is a comfortable place for people to gather and get lost in a good cup of coffee.

The 57th, which is currently attached to 4th Brigade Combat Team, Task Force Ironhorse, is a part of 56th Medevac Battalion of Fort Bragg, N.C.

Though the company is scheduled to relocate soon, Aklan intends to build another coffee shop at their next stop, and has made arrangements to hand off the Java Dustoff to fellow coffee lover Staff Sgt. Joey Nevy, a member of the 4th Brigade.

So in an unpredictable time, coffee remains a constant for the soldiers of the 57th Medevac and those they serve.



--**BRIDGE continued from page 1**
the Tigris River five miles south of Tikrit.

The latest challenge came with rising water levels of the Tigris as severe storms in northern Iraq and Turkey in November caused 24 pontoons to break away and float downriver. The search for pontoons went on for several days, and many were found as far as 25 miles downriver. Almost all stray pontoons were found and recovered, and construction teams have resumed building.

To withstand the fast current, the new Mabey & Johnson bridge is a floating construction using large pontoons that are anchored to the riverbed. Allen Pierson, a Mabey & Johnson Ltd. employee from the United Kingdom, is supervising the construction of the bridge.

“This will be the longest floating bridge by Mabey Johnson ever built, and the first Mabey Johnson bridge to be constructed by the U.S. Army.” Pierson said.

Because of the fluctuation of the river level, building the span has been challenging.

Iraqi contractors have been hired to assist with building the causeways, welding the pontoons on which the bridge will rest, and using 60-ton cranes to lower sections of the bridge into place.

Getting the project from the drafting table to the water has been a major endeavor as the project has required a variety of skills and equipment from various units.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Liana Mayo

Soldiers from the 652nd Assault Bridge Engineer Company, an Army Reserve unit based in Ellsworth, Wis., ferry troops to a site near Tikrit, Iraq where soldiers are constructing a 340-meter bridge across the Tigris River.

“So really, the actual bridge building is a small part of the project,” Pierson said.

Equipment operators from the 229th Combat Support Equipment Company, a National Guard unit from Platteville, Wis., have been conducting engineering operations on the project since Oct. 12, while overseeing the construction of a road and causeway system that will lead to the bridge. Bridge builders from the 74th Multi-Role Bridge Company of Fort Hood, Texas are responsible for assembling the steel bridge and setting it afloat.

On site to help with bridge construction are crane and forklift operators and welders from the 223rd Combat Heavy Engineer Battalion, a National Guard unit out of West Point, Miss. and the 244th Combat Heavy Engineer Battalion, a Reserve unit from Denver, Colo.

Boat operators from the 652nd have been shuttling soldiers daily to and from the site in their hydro-jet boats, powered by two 6-cylinder turbo engines.

“We call them the Cadillacs of the sea,” said Spc. Carl Gumz, a member of the 652nd and a native of Eau Claire, Wis.

1st Lt. Chad Mauer, platoon leader for the 74th's 2nd platoon, which is primarily responsible for the bridge construction, said although the recovery of the 40 foot pontoons slowed construction for several days, the mission is proceeding. The unit is using the bridge building as a learning experience preparing for another bridge project in Baqubah.

Several soldiers from C Company, 14th Engineer Battalion of Fort Lewis, Wash. are overseeing the coordination of the overall project, including causeway construction and improvements on both near and far shores.

“The entire project has been a managerial challenge,” said 1st Lt. Richard Cerretti, executive officer of C Company, 14th Engineer Battalion.

Cerretti said he is impressed by the team's ability to come together quickly while working on a short timeline, and sees it completing the mission on schedule.

“The strength of the team working on the bridge has come from its diversity, the ability to draw on the skills and experiences of so many different specialties,” he said.



--RANGE continued from page 1

On the range, a convoy of three Humvees, each manned by a three-person team and a range safety officer, traveled along winding road. One ambush scenario was designed after carefully reviewing other soldiers' real-life encounters with hostile forces.

The soldiers went through several dry runs of the course, learning what commands to give and what roles they would assume during the live-fire exercise.

Some of the soldiers focused on the movement of a wounded teammate from the disabled Humvee to another vehicle, while others established a perimeter to cover the transfer.

"This is something we're faced with," Berger said. "The biggest lesson learned was the drivers realized that they should just drive."

Another technique practiced during the scenario was covering sectors of fire using radios to communicate.

Other exercises at the range taught soldiers how to place a battle-sight zero on their weapons, as well as become familiar with the M-249 squad automatic weapon and the AK-47 assault rifle.

It is important that soldiers are familiar with the AK-47 and how it breaks down so it can be disabled if found, especially for civil affairs soldiers who travel so much, said Berger.



Photo by Spc. Samuel Soza

Sgt. 1st Class Timothy B. Berger, native of Kansas City, Mo., and a detachment sergeant for the 418th Civil Affairs Battalion, leads soldiers through a dry run of the moving operations range exercise.

The range was prepared in a mere six hours by team members, nearly all of whom have combat arms experience.

The battalion commander, Lt. Col. James Suriano, who is Special Forces qualified, supported the training.

Although hostilities in Iraq have risen, preventative training, such as the moving operations range, is preparing U.S. troops for dealing with enemy attacks in order to continue on and complete their mission.

"If we do our job right, it sways the populace to the American's side," Berger said.

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Photo by Spc. Melissa Walther

Staff Sgt. Roman Moreno of the 358th Civil Affairs Brigade, an Army Reserve unit from Norristown, Pa., removes panels in his Humvee, which will latter be outfitted with armor plating.

various units are making changes to the design to fit their needs, Moreno said.

"The point of the kits is to protect against IEDs and small arms fire," added Sgt. Jamie

Taylor, a gunner with the 358th.

According to White, the armor has been tested and has been found to be an extra deterrent to small arms.

"It won't stop a bullet but it'll slow it down a lot," said Moreno, a resident of Lubbock, Texas.

In addition to armor, the kit also includes a pole on the front of the vehicle to catch and snap wires insurgents string across the road to assail gunners who are perched above the Humvee's roof.

"I feel a lot safer now that we have the kit," Taylor said.



Local News

Religious Services at FOB Ironhorse

Sunday:

- 0930 -- Protestant
- 1100 -- Gospel
- 1300 -- Catholic
- 1800 -- Praise and Worship
- 1800 -- LDS

Wednesday:

- 1900 -- Bible Study
- 1900 -- Family Home Evening
(LDS in CMOC)

Friday:

- 1230 -- Muslim
- 1900 -- Bible Study (124th Signal
Battalion palace)

Sick Call Hours

Sick Call is held every Monday through Friday, 0800-1000 and Saturday, 0800-1200 at the Aid Station.

The Aid Station is closed Saturday afternoon and Sunday except for emergencies.

Dental appointments can be made during sick call on Mondays.

For emergencies, call 534-0161.

Sports Bar Happenings

- Monday: Country and Western
- Tuesday: Football
- Wednesday: Oldies but Goodies
- Thursday: Variety Night
- Friday: R&B
- Saturday: Latin Night
- Sunday: Live Football

Open Sun. - Thurs.: 2000 - 2400
Fri. - Sat.: 2000 - 0100

Weather Forecast

- Monday:** High: 61 F
Low: 46 F
Mostly Cloudy, Hazy
- Tuesday:** High: 59 F
Low: 46 F
Mostly Cloudy
- Wednesday:** High: 62 F
Low: 44 F
Partly Cloudy
- Thursday:** High: 61 F
Low: 43 F
Partly Cloudy
- Friday:** High: 60 F
Low: 40 F
Partly Cloudy, Hazy

AFRTS Radio

Armed Forces Radio and Television Service can now be heard on 93.3 FM, playing the hits of yesterday and today.

Movie Schedule

Movies at the Task Force Ironhorse Resort are shown at 11:00 a.m., 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.

Movies listed below are for the 8:00 p.m. showing only.

- 8 Dec.: Men In Black 2
 - 9 Dec.: Dreamcatcher
 - 10 Dec.: 28 Days Later
 - 11 Dec.: The League of Extraordinary Gentleman
 - 12 Dec.: Matrix Revolutions
 - 13 Dec.: Terminator trilogy
 - 14 Dec.: Formula 51
- Sunday's movies are shown at 2:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m. only.*

Reunion/Suicide Prevention Briefs

Briefs will now be held once a week, Wednesday at 1000 in the Chapel/Movie Theater at the Task Force Ironhorse Resort.

Briefs must be given before a soldier goes on mid-term leave.

Emergency individual briefings can be arranged through the chaplain's office.

Aerobics Classes

Aerobics classes will be offered at the Sports Bar at the Task Force Ironhorse Resort beginning Dec. 1.

Classes are every Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday, 0600-0730.

For more information, contact 1st Lt. Richardson at 534-9865.

Combined Federal Campaign -- Overseas

Program runs from Nov. 1 through Dec. 10.

Minimum contribution: \$1 per pay period.

Participation is strictly voluntary.

Contribute by cash, check or payroll deduction to more than 1,400 charitable organizations.

If your unit does not yet have a coordinator, contact your next higher command for more information.



World News

BOSTON (AP) - Residents of the Northeast dug out from a storm that piled more than 3 feet of snow in places, and prepared to start the week with the kids at home as hundreds of school districts announced they would be closed Monday.

WASHINGTON - Japanese stocks fell more than three percent on Monday after disappointing U.S. jobs data sent the dollar to three-year lows against the yen, battering car makers and blue chips such as NEC Corp.

ALPINE, Texas - A fight is brewing in drought-stricken West Texas over a Midland-based company's proposal to pump billions of gallons of water from aquifers stretching under four counties.

NEW YORK (AP) - Researchers at IBM Corp. claim they have made an important breakthrough in the race to design circuitry at the molecular level: a system that works with existing methods of electronics manufacturing.

In a paper being released Monday at an industry conference in Washington, D.C., IBM researchers Chuck Black and Kathryn Guarini say they used a naturally occurring pattern of molecules as a stencil to etch flash memory circuitry into silicon.

DENVER - State medical officials on Friday urged healthy people aged 2 to 64 not to get flu shots because of a vaccine shortage, even as they reported a ninth suspected child death from the virus.

Sports

NFL Standings

American Football Conference

East

New England (11-2)
Miami (8-5)
Buffalo (6-7)
NY Jets (5-8)

North

Baltimore (8-5)
Cincinnati (7-6)
Cleveland (4-8)

South

Indianapolis (10-3)
Tennessee (9-4)
Houston (5-8)
Jacksonville (4-9)

West

Kansas City (11-2)
Denver (8-5)
Oakland (3-10)
San Diego (3-10)

National Football Conference

East

Philadelphia (10-3)
Dallas (8-5)
Washington (5-8)
NY Giants (4-9)

North

Minnesota (8-5)
Green Bay (7-6)
Chicago (5-8)
Detroit (4-9)

South

Carolina (8-5)
New Orleans (6-7)
Atlanta (3-10)

West

St. Louis (9-3)
Seattle (8-5)
San Francisco (6-7)
Arizona (3-10)

NFL Sunday's Games:

Green Bay 34, Chicago 21
Philadelphia 36, Dallas 10

Washington 20, NY Giants 7
Pittsburgh 27, Oakland 7
Minnesota 34, Seattle 7
Jacksonville 27, Houston 0
San Diego 14, Detroit 7
Baltimore 31, Cincinnati 13
Indianapolis 29, Tennessee 27
Tampa Bay 14, New Orleans 7
San Francisco 50, Arizona 14
Denver 45, Kansas City 27
New England 12, Miami 0
Buffalo 17, NY Jets 6
Atlanta 20, Carolina 14

NCAA Football

(14) Miami (OH) 49, (20) Bowling Green 27
(2) USC 52, Oregon St. 28
(3) LSU 34, (5) Georgia 13
(13) Kansas St. 35, (1) Oklahoma 7
(18) Boise St. 45, Hawaii 28

NBA Standings

Eastern Conference

Atlantic

Philadelphia (11-10)
New Jersey (9-11)
Boston (7-12)
Washington (7-12)
New York (7-14)
Miami (5-15)
Orlando (1-19)

Central

Indiana (16-4)
Detroit (14-7)
New Orleans (14-7)
Toronto (11-8)
Milwaukee (9-11)
Atlanta (6-15)
Chicago (5-14)
Cleveland (5-15)

Western Conference

Midwest

Denver (13-6)
Dallas (13-7)

Houston (12-7)
Utah (12-7)
Minnesota (11-8)
Memphis (10-8)
San Antonio (11-10)

Pacific

LA Lakers (16-3)
Sacramento (12-5)
Portland (10-7)
Seattle (9-7)
Golden State (9-9)
Phoenix (8-11)
LA Clippers (6-9)

NBA Sunday's Games:

Minnesota 96, LA Clippers 94
Memphis 93, Portland 79
Toronto 108, Seattle 98
Boston 116, Denver 111
Sacramento 91, Indiana 88
LA Lakers 94, Utah 92

National Hockey League

(Team, W-L-T-OTL, Pts.)

Eastern Conference

Atlantic

Philadelphia (16-3-6-1, 39)
New Jersey (14-5-60, 34)
NY Rangers (10-10-5-2, 27)
NY Islanders (10-13-2-0, 22)
Pittsburgh (6-15-4-1, 17)

Northeast

Toronto (15-6-5-2, 37)
Boston (12-5-5-4, 33)
Ottawa (12-9-2-3, 29)
Montreal (12-11-3-1, 28)
Buffalo (12-13-2-1, 27)

Southeast

Atlanta (14-11-3-1, 32)
Tampa Bay (13-6-4-1, 31)
Florida (9-14-4-1, 23)
Carolina (7-11-8-1, 23)
Washington (8-17-1-1, 18)

Western Conference

Central

St. Louis (15-6-2-1, 33)
Detroit (15-10-3-0, 33)
Nashville (14-11-1-0, 29)
Columbus (8-14-3-1, 20)
Chicago (6-14-5-3, 20)

Northwest

Colorado (15-7-3-1, 34)
Vancouver (14-7-4-2, 34)
Calgary (13-8-1-3, 30)
Edmonton (11-12-3-0, 25)
Minnesota (9-13-5-0, 23)

Pacific

Los Angeles (14-10-1-1, 30)
San Jose (9-7-9-2, 29)
Anaheim (9-10-4-5, 27)
Phoenix (9-10-7-1, 26)
Dallas (11-14-3-0, 25)

NHL Sunday's Games:

Tampa Bay 3, NY Rangers 2
Phoenix 2, Chicago 2
Anaheim 4, Dallas 0
Calgary 6, Pittsburgh 1

Other News

NCAA

Tar Heels remain undefeated

CHAPEL HILL, N.C. (AP) — Sean May is scoring, Raymond Felton is working the ball and North Carolina is off and running under Roy Williams.

May scored 11 of his career-high 26 points in the first 5 1/2 minutes of the second half and the Tar Heels shot 61 percent in a 115-81 victory over George Mason on Sunday.

The No. 10 Tar Heels (5-0) remained one of five undefeated teams in the Atlantic Coast Conference in notching their first 100-point game under Williams. It was the most points for North Carolina since it scored 129 against Virginia Military in 1994.

