

10th Mountain prepares to train ANA

By Pfc. Christina Carde
11th Public Affairs Detachment

KABUL, Afghanistan – With less than seven days in Afghanistan, soldiers from the 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, N.Y. were already busy at work at the newly erected Camp Phoenix, putting up tents, pulling guard and preparing to begin their main mission – training the Afghan National Army.

While the troops scurried about the camp performing daily operations, the Kellogg, Brown and Root contractors were busy making sure that the soldiers have the resources they need to relax at the end of the day.

“A few months ago, Camp Phoenix was nothing but a huge junkyard full of scrap metal left from an abandoned tractor trailer park,” said Col. Robert Derrick, commander, Engi-

neer Transatlantic Programs Center, Office of Military Cooperation. “The OMC needed a large enough area to house up to 800 soldiers and they decided this would be the perfect location. We are currently leasing it from an Afghan trucking company for one year.”

As soon as the approval was given, the U.S. Army began their work of turning the junkyard into a military training camp.

“The camp is made up of two force provider kits that come with everything needed to set up operations in a field environment,” said Derrick. “Normally it takes about three to four weeks to have the whole kit set up, but the engineers here set up both kits in about two weeks which is record time. By May 15, there was a dining facility, medic tent, showers, latrines and living quarters enough to house over 500 soldiers.”

The camp’s maximum capacity is quickly being filled with more than 300 10th Mountain soldiers currently residing in the camp preparing to begin their mission.

“This camp was built to house the soldiers who will train the ANA,” said Derrick. “Once the training begins, most soldiers will remain here but some will replace Special Forces who are embedded with the Afghan trainees.”

According to Derrick, one advantage the 10th Mountain troops have is the presence of Brown and Root.

“The Brown and Root contractors were here on the ground setting up facilities for the soldiers from the moment 10th Mountain started to arrive,” said Derrick. “Thanks to Brown and Root, the troops had hot chow,

See **PHOENIX**, Page A3

WMD in wrong hands greatest security risk

By Sgt. 1st Class Doug Sample
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Weapons of mass destruction in the wrong hands is the “greatest security risk of this decade,” said deputy defense secretary Paul Wolfowitz during a symposium at the third annual Conference on Counterproliferation May 13.

The United States will continue to have a requirement for a “robust WMD elimination capability” even after the discovery and the destruction of Iraq’s WMD capabilities, he noted.

Wolfowitz’s comment came in the wake of the May 12 terrorist bombing attacks on a residential compound in Saudi Arabia that

See **WMD**, Page A3



Photo by Spc. Debralee P. Crankshaw

A memorial drive...

A memorial precession for Brett Thorpe, President Karzai's bodyguard, a retired Army Special Forces sergeant first class, on contract to the State Department, proceeded down Disney Drive Friday. Thorpe, who died of a heart attack, was 44 and is survived by his sons, Christopher, 19 and Brandon, 16.

World News (Compiled from CNN.com)



The president and Laura Bush arrive late Friday in Krakow, Poland.

Diplomatic challenges await Bush overseas

KRAKOW, Poland — President Bush arrived Friday in Poland, where he kicks off an ambitious seven-day, six-nation trip aimed at tackling a list of top diplomatic concerns, including building support for Middle East peace and mending fences with European countries that opposed the war in Iraq, particularly France.

Air Force One, with the president and Laura Bush aboard, landed in Krakow shortly before 10 p.m. [4 p.m. EDT].

By making his first stop Poland, a country that supported the U.S. effort to topple Saddam Hussein's regime, the president is beginning his trip on a positive note before proceeding into tougher terrain. He is scheduled to travel to Russia and France, two countries that staunchly opposed the U.S.-led war.

In France, Bush will attend the G-8 summit.

He will then travel to Egypt to meet with Arab leaders before continuing to Jordan for discussions with Israeli and Palestinian leaders.

Finally, he will go to Doha, Qatar, home of U.S. Central Command, to visit troops and get an update on conditions in Iraq. The president has no plans to visit Iraq.

Terror threat level lowered

WASHINGTON — The nation's terror threat level was lowered Friday to yellow, or "elevated," 10 days after it was raised to orange, or "high," because of intelligence indicating plans of terrorist attacks, a spokesman for the Department of Homeland Security said.

Counterterrorism officials said intelligence indicating possible attacks had diminished in recent days and the period of heightened vulnerability surrounding the Memorial Day holiday had passed without incident.

Another factor that played a part in Friday's decision, officials said, was concern over the financial toll the move to "orange" alert status was taking on cash-strapped state and local governments, requiring them to implement tighter security measures.

Homeland Security boosted the national alert level on May 20 after the U.S. intelligence community indicated that al Qaeda had entered an "operational period worldwide" and might attack within the United States.

The raised terror threat level came a week after the nearly simultaneous bombings at three residential compounds in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, in which 34 people died, including eight Americans. Nine attackers also died.

Iran responsible for 1983 Marine barracks bombing

WASHINGTON — Iran is responsible for the 1983 suicide bombing of a U.S. Marine barracks in Beirut, Lebanon, that killed 241 American servicemen, a U.S. District Court judge ruled Friday.

U.S. District Judge Royce C. Lamberth said the suicide truck bombing was carried out by the group Hezbollah with the approval and funding of Iran's senior government officials.

Lamberth ordered that the plaintiffs in the case — the servicemen wounded in that bombing and the families of those killed — have a "right to obtain judicial relief" from Iran. The judge called the October 23, 1983 bombing "the most deadly state-sponsored terrorist attack made against United States citizens before September 11, 2001."

"In the early morning hours of that day, 241 American servicemen were murdered in their sleep by a suicide bomber," he wrote. "On that day, an unspeakable horror invaded the lives of those who survived the attack and the family members whose loved ones had been stolen from them."

The court will determine compensatory damages after reviewing reports submitted by

"special masters" appointed by the court for claims resolution. Lamberth also wrote in his ruling that he would "take under advisement" the possibility of awarding punitive damages.

U.S. general: Lack of Iraqi WMD 'a surprise'

SOUTHERN IRAQ — A top U.S. military commander in Iraq said Friday that he could not understand why coalition forces have been unable to find any weapons of mass destruction, but a U.S. general who will lead a new inspection team expressed faith in intelligence placing such weapons on Iraqi soil.

"It was a surprise to me then as it remains a surprise to me now that we have not uncovered weapons in some of the forward dispersal sites," said Lt. Gen. James Conway, commander of the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force, which is tasked with holding and patrolling southern Iraq.

"Believe me, it's not for lack of trying. We've been to virtually every ammunition-supply point between the Kuwaiti border and Baghdad, and they're simply not there."

Disarming Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's regime of suspected chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear weapons was a primary reason the Bush administration gave for launching the war. No such weapons have yet been found.

Abbas vows end of attacks by radical groups

JERUSALEM — Palestinian Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas predicted Friday that he would persuade all radical Palestinian groups to agree to a cease-fire — and end their attacks against Israelis — within three weeks.

The announcement came as President Bush began a trip that includes a peace summit with Israeli and Palestinian leaders and other stops in the Middle East.

The Israeli government also announced that it would take "confidence-building" measures including releasing more than 100 Palestinian detainees, reopening borders between Israel and the occupied territories, issuing permits for 25,000 Palestinians to work in Israel and releasing impounded tax money to the Palestinian Authority.



Photo by Pfc. Christina Carde

A local contractor saws the nails off of a wooden tent frame in the new Camp Phoenix. The camp, which is still being completed, will house soldiers of the 10th Mountain Division who will train the Afghan National Army.

WMD, from Page A1

killed 34 people, including eight Americans. It served as a harsh reminder that the United States war against terrorism is not over, he said.

The symposium was held at the National Defense University's Center for Counterproliferation Research at Fort McNair in Washington May 13-14. Wolfowitz addressed an audience of military and civilian leaders on the Pentagon's progress to end the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and the war on terrorism.

In an era where chemical and biological weapons have multiplied, the deputy secretary said the United States' priority has got to be on "preventing attacks and protecting our people and our military forces."

Wolfowitz said the Sept. 11 attacks "awakened" the United States to an era of mass terror that "changed the way we have to think about national security."

They demonstrated in the "clearest terms" that the United States "can't simply wait" for a crisis to develop or for enemies to accumulate the means to harm the country before it acts. He added that another attack on the homeland is likely to happen.

"And yet as great as the impact of Sept. 11 was, it would pale in comparison to a major bio or even chemical attack," he said. "We know that it is no longer a question of whether such an attack might conceivably be attempted, but more likely a matter of when."

Wolfowitz said the Defense Department's new strategy to end the counterproliferation of WMDs will be more proactive, like U.S. counterterrorism efforts currently in place.

"Our approach calls for earlier and more aggressive efforts to prevent and neutralize threats before they materialize, recognizing that it will no longer do to simply wait until after the fact to retaliate," he said.

PHOENIX, from Page A1

hot showers and flush toilets from the first night they were here. There are certain camps that have been up for over a year that still don't have some of these amenities. The troops here are lucky."

According to Brown and Root, they are working as fast as they can to implement Morale, Welfare and Recreation facilities for the soldiers.

"We just set up the MWR tent today and we are in the process of setting up the gym," said Shannon Stewart, Brown and Root contractor. "We have guys coming in from Bagram everyday with supplies to help get things rolling."

"Things are moving along great," said Derrick. "The Brown and Root contractors are doing a fabulous job. Having all of these resources after only being here a week is basically the lap of luxury in a field environment."

"Iraq is an example," he said, "But our efforts can't stop there. They have to include more aggressive efforts to interdict WMD materials earlier through targeted operations and expanded cooperation with like-minded nations."

Wolfowitz said the United States and coalition allies are presently engaged in a comprehensive effort to identify, assess and eliminate Iraq's WMDs and delivery systems. That effort, he said, is to keep weapons and related materials, documents and equipment out of terrorist hands.

He said some 600 experts from the U.S. government are involved in the discovery and exploitation of WMD sites and other targets in Iraq. The number of people there, however, will more than double in size by the end of May when the Defense Intelligence Agency's Iraq Survey Group arrives, he said.

The group's mission is to collect information on Saddam's chemical, biological and nuclear weapons programs, along with information on those associated with the former regime.

But "this effort will take time," Wolfowitz observed. "Saddam Hussein was a master of deception." The deputy secretary emphasized that the former dictator had redesigned "his WMD programs to make them easier to hide" over the 12 years since the first Gulf War.

"He had four-and-a-half years without any international inspections to conceal his weapons and all evidence of his programs," Wolfowitz pointed out. "And he had six months of 'strategic warning' — that is to say, after the passage of UN Security Council Resolution 1441 — to accelerate his deception and destruction efforts.

Wolfowitz said that lessons learned from Operation Iraqi Freedom will help the United States be better prepared to counter the WMD threat.

"There's no question that history will judge harshly those who saw the coming danger but failed to act," he said.

U.S., Uzbeks find ties in soccer

Story and photos by
Spc. Travis Edwards
1st COSCOM PAO

CAMP STRONGHOLD FREEDOM, Uzbekistan — Members of the U.S. military deployed to support Operation Enduring Freedom played a fifth soccer game with Uzbek soldiers in a pick-up game Sunday at Camp Stronghold Freedom, Uzbekistan.

“The soldiers, airmen, and Marines who play soccer with the Uzbeks arrange with their supervisors to have a few hours off so they can participate. Some servicemembers work nights and come out during the day to play, choosing sports over sleep,” said Master Sgt. Derek St. Louis, goalie and acting coach of the American team. He is also the 659th Maintenance Company, Detachment first sergeant, Logistical Task Force-46, Camp Stronghold Freedom, Uzbekistan.

“The team is made up of volunteers. Sometimes the team looks totally different



Both the U.S. Armed Forces and the Uzbek military teams gather for a group picture after a game at Camp Stronghold Freedom.

from the last game since not everyone can get off to play in the games. We may have three people out there who have never touched a soccer ball mixed with some play-

ers who have been playing their whole lives,” said St. Louis. “Everyone has a blast. Soccer is an international language.”

“It is great to see the soldiers interacting with other cultures and helps to build relationships with the other services, U.S. and Uzbek,” said 1st Lt. Virginia Fricks, commander, 659th Maint. Co. Det.

“The games were suspended when the base threat condition was raised during Operation Iraqi Freedom, but continued immediately after the threat condition was down-

See **SOCCER**, Page A6



An Uzbek soldier heads the ball towards the goal during a soccer game between U.S. forces deployed to Camp Stronghold Freedom, Uzbekistan and Uzbek military stationed at Karshi-Kanabad.



An Uzbek referee uses Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack Tilley's coin of excellence for the coin toss Saturday in a soccer game between U.S. and Uzbek military forces at Camp Stronghold Freedom.

FREEDOM'S VOICES

Devil commander bids troops farewell

Just my Opinion

Col. John Campbell
Task Force-Devil Commander

"We will rally the world to this cause by our efforts and by our courage. We will not tire, we will not falter, we will not fail"

-President Bush

Shortly I'll change command and pass the colors to Col. Patrick Donohue. For the past 24 months and especially the past six months in Afghanistan it has been my honor and privilege to command this great regiment and the Devil Task Force. This has been the most rewarding experience of my military career and certainly one I will not forget.

Everyday I'm amazed at the perseverance of our soldiers as they continue this very important task of preserving our way of life ... by prosecuting the global war on terrorism. All of you should be proud of the accomplishments of this great Task Force and the difference you have made in the lives of so many of the Afghanistan people. As I have said to numerous formations and groups ... no one will understand the experiences that you have gone through here more than your buddies on your left and right ... there is no way that you can articulate what you have sacrificed together ... there will always be a

special bond between you and your brothers-in-arms. Cherish this time, take care of each other and stay focused on the task at hand.

Looks like I'll head to the Pentagon for my next assignment and the message I'll tell all is that the paratroopers of Task Force Devil are making a significant difference in this global war on terrorism and a huge impact in Afghanistan. Under very austere conditions and rugged terrain the paratroopers are making us all proud to be associated among them. Like the veterans before them at places like the Waal River, Salerno, and Sicily new names like Kandahar, Spin Boldak, Baghran Valley, Khwest will go down as places that the Devils have made significant impacts upon. Just as earlier veterans of this great Regiment, today's Devils have forcefully demonstrated on the battlefield that despite the obstacles of weather and rugged terrain, or of being tired, these Devils have remained determined and kept its commitment to accomplish every mission with out ever relinquishing any ground it had once occupied.

Regimental Command Sgt. Maj. Gary Kalinofski and I are continually reminded of the great sacrifices our soldiers and their families make everyday so that others may enjoy the liberties of freedom that many Americans take for granted. All vet-

— See **COMMENTARY**, Page A6

STREET TALK

What has been the most interesting meal you've eaten in MES?

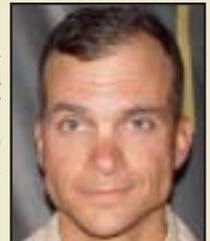


"I ate an entire lamb's tongue during dinner with the Jordanians."

Spc. Nathan Dicks
945th Eng. Det.
Bismarck, N.D.

"Anything Sgt. 1st Class Hollier made before we had a cook."

Maj. Joe Dixon
1st COSCOM,
Fort Bragg, N.C.

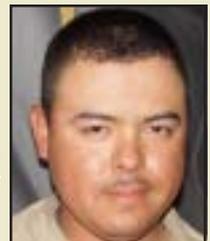


"Chili and Macaroni Meal Ready-to Eat."

Dr. Zekrulla Atta
Afghan Interpreter
Masar-e Sharif

"Chicken and rice stir-fry ... one of the soldiers made that from a homemade recipee."

Spc. Israel Martinez
373rd CSB
Beaumont, Texas



Freedom Watch falls under the supervision of the Combined Joint Task Force - 180, and is published daily, Monday - Saturday.

CJTF-180 Commander —

Maj. Gen. John R. Vines

CJTF-180 Command Sergeant Major —

Command Sgt. Maj. Steven R. England

Public Affairs Officer —

Col. Rodney Davis

Public Affairs Sergeant Major —

Sgt. Maj. Harrison Sarles

Freedom Watch, an Army newspaper



publication, is produced by the 11th Public Affairs Detachment at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan.

Commander — Maj. William Mott

NCOIC — Staff Sgt. Christina Bhatti

Editor — Sgt. W. Cullen James

Journalists — Spc. Debralee P. Crankshaw,

Pfc. Christina Carde, Pvt. 2 Terri Rorke

In accordance with AR 360-1, this Army newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military overseas.

Contents of Freedom Watch are not necessarily the official view of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Army.

All submissions are subject to editing for size and content by the 11th Public Affairs Detachment, located in Motel 6, CJTF-180, Bagram Air Base.

Visit the CENTCOM Web site at www.centcom.mil and click on the Freedom Watch or Forces in Afghanistan link at the bottom of the page to get the latest editions of the Freedom Watch. To be added to the daily distribution list email william.james@us.army.mil

SOCCER, from Page A4

graded,” said Maj. Cynthia Summers, executive officer, 373rd Corps Support Battalion, Beaumont, Texas. Summers attends as many games as possible providing support for both teams.

“Playing soccer with Uzbeks has stimulated respect and trust of each other increasing our international ties and relations,” said Staff Sgt. Cory Najera, 373rd CSB. Najera is a striker forward and has scored a majority of the American points.

“Members of all U.S. Armed Forces at Stronghold Freedom are allowed to play. Soldiers, airmen, and Marines mix it up every week. The competitive spirit is thriving and people are beginning to organize practices,” said Summers.

The games are played in the Uzbek military compound on Camp Stronghold Freedom. There, children of the Uzbek soldiers and their friends pack the sidelines.

“The best part is going to see the kids. It gives a ‘Saturday at the park’ kind of feel and reminds you of being home with your own family,” said Summers.

“I look forward to having a break from our work. It has been almost five months and we haven’t left base. It is a chance to play, not work, with other units and branches of the U.S. military,” said Najera. “It really does increase morale and esprit de corps.”

The Uzbeks won Saturday’s game tying the series at two games a piece with one tie.



Above: *The U.S. Armed Forces and the Uzbek military teams gather before the game for an inspirational chant, Uzbek tradition, before beginning the game. The Uzbek forces are stationed at the Karshi-Kanabad airfield.*



Left: *Uzbek children listen to American music on a U.S. Airman's walkman during a soccer game between U.S. and Uzbek military forces at Camp Stronghold Freedom.*

COMMENTARY, from Page A5

erans know that freedom isn’t free and that it takes men and women of great character to step up and take a stand—this Task Force — everyone of you individually is doing their part to ensure that the terrorists that inflicted the great suffering of 9-11 will never ever have the capability to do so again—we will never forget.

Someday in a Taliban or al-Qaida diary we will read, “...*Devils in baggy pants have surrounded my cave, I can’t sleep at night; they pop up from nowhere and we never know when or how they will strike next...the black-hearted devils are everywhere...*”

I owe a great debt of gratitude to the family readiness groups and to all the ladies that



Photo by Spc. Jim Wagner, 109th MPAD

Col. John Campbell, Task Force Devil commander, left, and Regimental Command Sgt. Maj. Gary Kalinofski, pose for a photo after running in a 10-kilometer race May 8. Campbell will relinquish command of the task force Monday.

have supported us the past two years. Without them we could not have stayed focused on what we all love to do. To the greatest

assembly of non-commissioned officers ... you truly are the standard bearers ... I have learned more about leadership from all of you than I could ever pass on.

We’re truly blessed to have Kalinofski as our regimental sergeant major ... he has been and will continue to be the bedrock of this great regiment. I’m truly living the dream ... to be associated with this great Regiment, with its great veterans, with the greatest NCOs, officers and troopers ... I am in awe every day. I am truly humbled and proud to be part of this great organization and to have had the opportunity to serve along side the very best. If I can assist any of you in the future please let me know. Ann and I wish you and your families the very best.

Strike Hold!

Roller coaster ride arrives at Bagram

Story and photo by
Pvt. 2 Terri Rorke
11th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan – He says his time in the service has been like riding a roller coaster.

Master Sgt. David E. Merrin, maintenance control supervisor for the 372nd Maintenance Company, Cleveland, Ohio, has been in the National Guard since 1971 and this is his first deployment.

Merrin left his job in the civilian sector as a supervisor for Ohio's Combined Support Maintenance Shop that provides direct support for the state. The organization requires its employees to be in the National Guard, which Merrin said he isn't scared of putting a little time into doing. "I have the responsibility of assigning work to the completion of the work, to handling problems."

Merrin performs the same job here that he does in garrison.

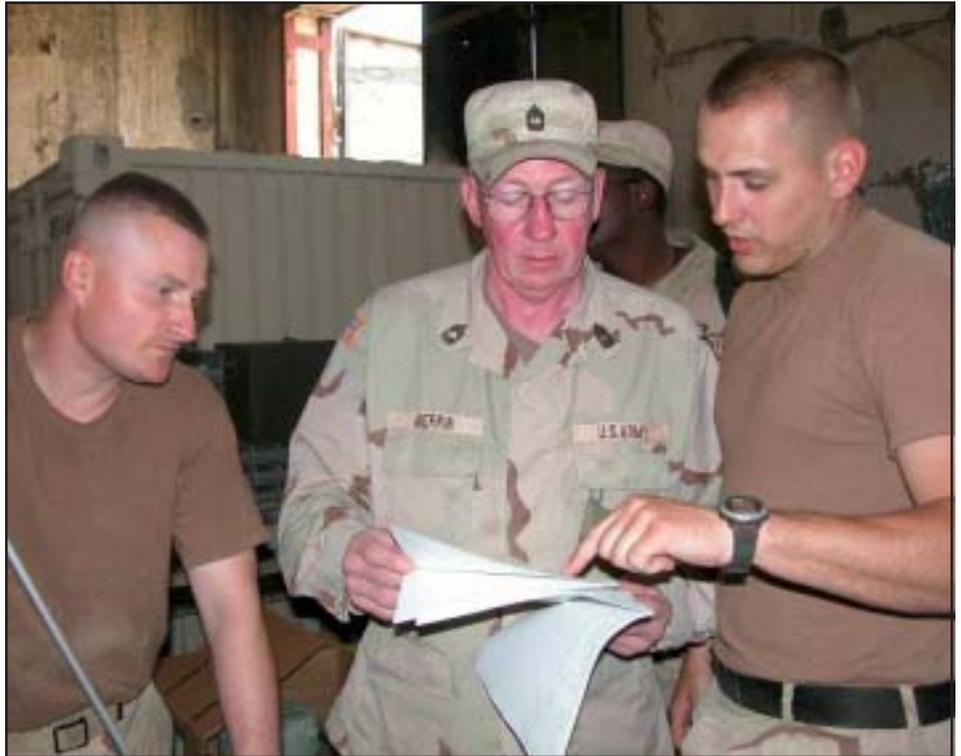
"My whole day is structured. We get out of (the shop) late at night ... and get to the chow hall right before it closes. And the next day we get up and do it all over again.

"I do enjoy the work and the people, but I may not be the world's finest military man," said the Ohio State University graduate. He earned a bachelor's degree in agriculture and science education.

Despite being 54, he does physical training five days a week. He said he is a huge sports fan, who enjoys playing basketball and drag racing. But it becomes a setback for him he said.

"That's always been one of my problems. I like to do too many things – I spread the resources too far.

"The regular Army guys marvel that this is my first deployment in (32 years



Army National Guard soldiers, Spc. Scotty Sloyer and Sgt. Ashley Britton, both of the 372nd Maintenance Company out of Cleveland, Ohio, listen to Master Sgt. David E. Merrin, also 372nd Maintenance Co. Merrin has served 32 years in the service and is currently on his first deployment. He is responsible for supervising all of the maintenance shops in his company.

of service) ... I guess that is why I am here now. Maybe I owe them something," said Merrin, who was activated for deployment on his birthday.

Because he is 54 years old, he said it would have been easy for him to avoid coming here, but he made sure he was deployable.

"I could have gotten ruled undeployable either because of my hearing or a couple other reasons, but I wrote a positive letter to the medical review board ... to make myself deployable."

He said sacrificing to see the birth of his first grandchild and being miles from his family in Ohio is rough for him, but he also remembers he is lucky. The separation of his loved ones will have a positive affect. "You got to look at it as a posi-

tive experience."

Seeing soldiers getting killed here and in Iraq helps him count his blessings, said the former teacher. Plus, other soldiers are also missing lifetime events of their loved ones. "I know I am not the only one."

Looking back on serving more than three decades in the service, Merrin said, "The military has treated me quite well. I live quite comfortably."

But when his deployment his through, he said he is going to "take a vacation." Maybe he will go camping and relax at a few barbecues with his family.

But in the mean time, Merrin said he will continue to serve here and may join a few basketball tournaments in the future.

Music Notes (Compiled from MTV.com)

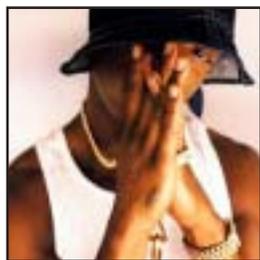
New tracks from Nas, Pink, Nickelback on 'Charlie's Angels' disc

Charlie's not the only one with angels. "Nas' Angels ... the Flyest" is among the handful of new songs recorded for the soundtrack to this summer's "Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle," according to a Columbia Records spokesperson. The Queens MC cut his track with the Neptunes' Pharrell Williams.

Joining the soundtrack's first single, Pink's "Feel Good Time," are other exclusive tracks: Nickelback and Kid Rock's cover of Elton John's "Saturday Night's Alright (For Fighting)" and David Bowie's remake of his 1974 hit "Rebel Rebel," marked by a slower arrangement than the original.

The "Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle" soundtrack is due June 24, while the film, which stars Cameron Diaz, Drew Barrymore and Lucy Liu and features a cameo by Pink, hits the big screen three days later.

Other tracks appearing on the album include the Electric Six's cheeky underground hit "Danger! High Voltage," Bon Jovi's "Livin' on a Prayer" and MC Hammer's "U Can't Touch This."



Ja Rule

Ja Rule's proposed six months away from the music

biz has lasted a whole two weeks.

Murder Inc.'s biggest record seller resurfaced over the weekend via the mixtape circuit with a freestyle called "The Wrap," which features Tupac's one-time Outlawz clique member Fatal Hussein. No, the title isn't paying homage to one of your favorite

MTV shows — it's referring to what Rule perceives to be the status of his foes' careers.

While Ja's wrath is contained to just one freestyle verse, the Queens native manages to once again throw a few barbs at 50 Cent, Dr. Dre and Busta Rhymes over the instrumental for Mobb Deep's "The Learning (Burn)." Rule also addresses a physical altercation between members of the Inc. and D12's Proof at a Miami strip club a few weeks ago and the accusation that federal agents are investigating his record company for laundering drug money. "Plus the feds want us bad for cleaning cash," raps Ja, who orders 50 to "pull your skirt down" toward the end of the record. "But what cash is we cleansing?" he continues. "It's all about the Benjamins, what?/ If it's dirty then we rinsing it off."

Earlier this month in Miami, Murder Inc.'s head honcho, Irv Gotti, told MTV News that Ja was taking a six-month hiatus, explaining that after releasing a solo album every year since 1999 and becoming a fixture on radio and video airwaves, the fans may have been getting a little tired of Rule and needed a break. Gotti also revealed plans for a Rule double LP sometime in 2004. There is no further word on the status of that project.

Britney Previews LP, denies rumors of 'Cry me a river' response

NEW YORK — From the sound of things, Britney Spears appears to be channeling Madonna on her fourth album.

The pop singer, who took a step toward womanhood on *Britney*, has taken the Material Girl's cue, seeming to address more adult themes and styles while retaining a sense of girlish fun on her upcoming disc, which she previewed for MTV recently at Battery Studios.

"I've really been able to take my time and have creative control and make [the new album] special, special, special," she said.

Producers who have worked with the singer — including Rodney Jerkins, the Neptunes, 7 Aurelius, the Matrix and Fred Durst — have described the new material as having a trip-hop vibe, reminiscent of Madonna's "Ray of Light".



Avril Lavigne

Avril's tale of Sk8er Boi meets girl optioned for movie

Avril Lavigne's "Sk8er Boi" may soon be shredding the silver screen.

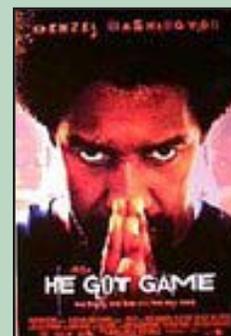
Paramount Pictures has optioned the *Let Go* hit for a feature film, according to Lavigne's publicist. Writer David Zabel, whose previous television credits include work for "ER," "Jag" and "Dark Angel," will translate the song's lyrics into a full-length movie, and MTV Films and Alphaville will produce the prospective flick, according to industry trade *The Hollywood Reporter*.

The second single from 2002's 5 million-selling *Let Go* traces the disparate paths of two high school students: a preppy girl who "does ballet" and the song's namesake, a punk who wears baggy clothes. From the start, the girl's friends won't accept her suitor because of his looks, but years later, when our sk8er boi hero is "rockin' up MTV," she regrets the one she let get away.

Bagram Air Base MWR presents

1730Z at the MWR building: Old School Night. Bring your own CDs.

Tomorrow's movie will be "He Got Game." A basketball player's father must try to convince him to go to a college so he can get a shorter sentence.



Coalition Sports Zone

(Compiled from ESPN.com)



David Clyde was 18-33 with a 4.63 ERA in parts of five seasons in the majors.

The rise ... and fall of a phenom

David Clyde wants to make a comeback. Thirty years after his major league debut, the most hyped and heralded phenom in modern baseball history is ready to return to the dugout.

He thinks he has something to offer as a pitching coach. Something he didn't receive as an 18-year-old who jumped directly from high school to the majors.

Something about confidence.

"Teaching pitching is not rocket

science," Clyde said. "Where the real trick comes in is to build the confidence and security in the pitcher's mind, because that's what the game is all about."

Confidence, says Clyde, was the ingredient missing during his first few years with the Texas Rangers. The ink was barely dry on his contract, signed shortly after the Rangers drafted him No. 1 overall out of Houston's Westchester High in 1973, before he found himself on the mound at Arlington Stadium against the Minnesota Twins.

The media frenzy had started on the morning of draft day, with all the Houston TV stations camped out on his lawn. It continued as Rangers owner Bob Short, in a desperate attempt to get fans to the ballpark, hyped his debut.

On June 27, 1973, in a circus-like atmosphere featuring Polynesian belly dancers, lions, and a papier-mâché giraffe, Clyde — all of 18 years, two months, and five days old — stood surrounded by 35,698 fans and did his job.

After walking Jerry Terrell and Rod Carew, he settled down, striking out the next three batters. In the second inning, he walked four more Twins and surrendered a two-run homer to Mike Adams, but escaped bigger damage thanks to two runners caught stealing.

When Clyde left the game after five innings (one hit, two earned runs, seven walks, eight strikeouts), the Rangers held a 4-2 lead. Bill Gogolewski pitched four strong innings in relief, and Clyde went on to record his first major league win. Just 17 more would follow before he retired following the 1981 season.

Clyde was already a show in the early 1970s when he pitched for Westchester. His team was excellent — "We made front page news," Clyde recalls — advancing to the state finals his senior year. During that 1973 high school season, the 6-foot-1, 185-pound flamethrower

went 18-0 and struck out 328 batters in 148 1/3 innings. And he walked just 18.

In his sophomore year, he pitched a perfect game against the defending state champs. As a senior, he pitched another perfect game. Also as a senior, he had a stretch of five games that went like this: no-hitter, no-hitter, one-hitter, one-hitter, no-hitter. It would be David Clyde's last great season.

Contreras dominant in first career start

DETROIT — Jose Contreras made the New York Yankees' rotation a little more crowded.

Contreras made an impressive pitch to remain a starter, allowing two hits in seven innings in his first career start as the Yankees beat Detroit 6-0 Friday night behind two homers by Jason Giambi.

"Of course I'd like to, but it's not my decision," Contreras said about staying in the rotation. "I'm going to keep preparing for whatever role I'm needed."

Contreras, who left Cuba and signed a \$32 million, four-year contract with New York in the offseason, got a one-start trial in place of an injured David Wells.

But with a strong first start, Jeff Weaver's recent struggles and owner George Steinbrenner's public wishes for Contreras to join the rotation, the Cuban defector's stay might not be so brief.

"It's a nice problem to have," manager Joe Torre said. "In this game, things have a way of working themselves out. I'm not about to make any decision before I have to."

The Yankees have won three straight following a season-high five-game skid, and coupled with Boston's loss in Toronto, they moved a half-game ahead of the Red Sox in the AL East.

Detroit was shut out for the 10th time, in front of a crowd of 28,003, the largest at Comerica Park since opening day. The next closest teams in the AL are Baltimore and Toronto with four shutouts each.

Contreras posted a 15.63 ERA through his first six relief appearances. But after struggling in his first game back from the minors, Contreras allowed one hit in five scoreless innings his past two outings.

"I gave him the lineup card after the game," Torre said. "This was big for him."

Contreras didn't give up a hit until Kevin Witt — the only Tiger who had faced him — doubled in the fifth. Witt faced Contreras in a Triple-A game earlier this year.

Left fielder Juan Rivera helped Contreras out in the seventh when he made a leaping catch over the left-field wall to deny Dmitri Young a two-run homer.

Contreras had 49 strikes in his 81-pitch outing. He struck out six

SPORTS, from Page B3

and, walked one and had one wild pitch. His longest previous outing was four innings last Saturday when Wells hurt his right calf.

"I had pretty good control of all my pitches," he said through an interpreter. "I felt really good."

Cone: This is the end, for sure

NEW YORK — David Cone stood just inside the Mets' clubhouse, personally delivering the news as his teammates trickled in. David Cone had one of the best repertoires I've ever seen a pitcher possess. He had phenomenal natural stuff. He never looked like a classic power pitcher — he wasn't a big guy — but he had a mid-90s fastball with about eight different arm angles. He threw a Frisbee slider that started out *behind* right-handed hitters, yet he could paint the outside corner with it. He was also able to throw a curveball and a devastating splitter, so he was as tough on left-handed hitters as on right-handers.

When Cone had it all going, he was lights out, absolutely unhittable. There was nothing you could do. I never was a teammate of Cone's, but we crossed paths often in the National League and occasionally in the American League. The first time I saw him pitch was when we both played Winter Ball in Puerto Rico in 1985. I ended up edging Cone for the strikeout crown on the last day of the winter season (though I probably had 30 more innings than him). He had filthy stuff then, too. When hitters struggle against a control pitcher (such as a Jamie Moyer or Tom Glavine), you can hear their frustration in the dugout after an at-bat: "This guy's got *nothing* — how's he getting us out?" With Cone, it was the opposite. Guys would come back after an at-bat and say, "Wow, did you see *that*?"

Now that his career is over — a career that included World Series titles and a perfect game — I'll look forward to seeing Cone in the broadcast booth. It was time to say goodbye.

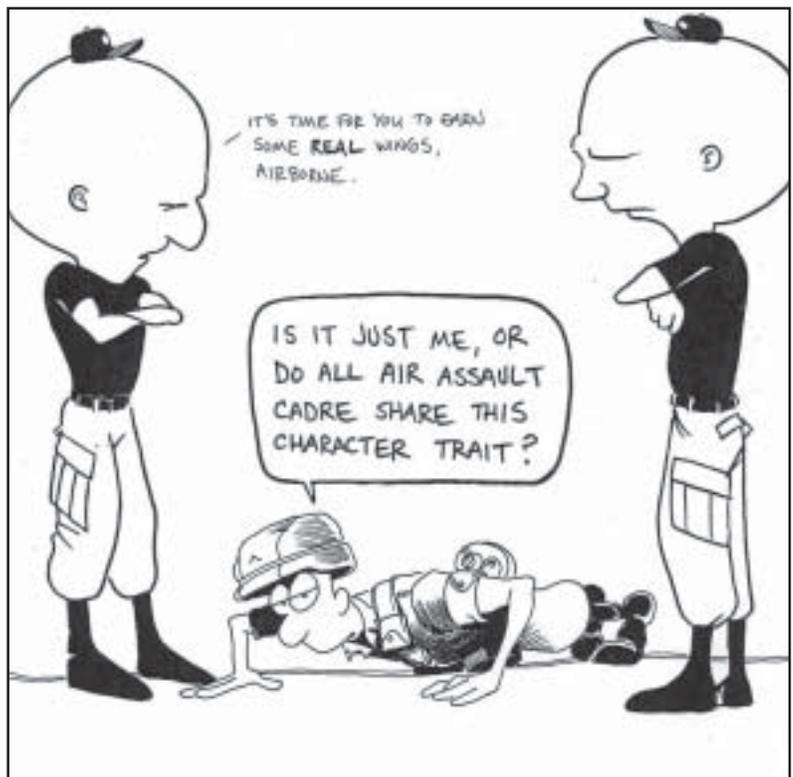
Dressed in a business suit and still looking boyishly young despite a hint of gray around the temples, Cone retired Friday. He cut short his comeback with New York, calling it a career at age 40 because of an arthritic left hip, rather than a tired right arm. "This is the end, for sure," the pitcher said at Shea Stadium.

No tears, no long speeches filled with regret. In fact, Cone even called out across the clubhouse to kid the guy taking his place on the roster — 42-year-old reliever John Franco, activated from the disabled list after being sidelined since 2001 by elbow surgery. "One of the old expressions in baseball is, 'It's time to get out of the game and give the young guys a chance,'" Cone said. Joked Franco: "Man, I'm sorry I forced you out."

Solution from Friday's Jacket Up Crossword in the *Freedom Watch*

(Courtesy of QUIZLAND.com)

A	S	K	E	D		P	A	L	S		S	W	I	G		
W	A	I	V	E		E	L	I	E		M	I	N	E		
A	L	L	I	N		L	I	L	A		O	R	A	N		
Y	E	L	L	O	W	T	A	I	L		K	E	N	T		
					T	A	S	S		A	S	I	D	E	S	
S	E	E	D	E	D				E	B	O	N				
E	T	T	U			E	B	A	Y		O	G	L	E	R	
E	N	O	S			S	A	X	E	S		G	A	M	A	
P	A	N	T	S		M	E	S	H		U	N	I	T		
					B	A	R	A			O	R	N	A	T	E
R	E	F	U	S	E			T	O	R	O					
A	L	E	S			S	P	O	R	T	S	C	A	S	T	
M	U	L	T			E	A	R	L		T	O	T	I	E	
I	D	L	E			A	A	L	S	O		E	M	O	T	E
S	E	A	R			L	E	O	N		R	A	M	E	N	



By Mark Baker

Pvt. Murphy's Law

Kandahar chapel hours

Sunday

- ❖ 0500Z — Roman Catholic mass
- ❖ 0630Z — Protestant worship
- ❖ 0830Z — Latter-Day Saints worship
- ❖ 1130Z — Roman Catholic mass
- ❖ 1430Z — Gospel service

Monday

- ❖ 1130Z — Rosary and prayers
- ❖ 1430Z — Gospel choir practice

Tuesday

- ❖ 1130Z — Orthodox/Catholic Bible study
- ❖ 1430Z — Protestant Bible study

Wednesday

- ❖ 1130Z — Roman Catholic mass
- ❖ 1430Z — Protestant mid-week service

Thursday

- ❖ 1430Z — Gospel Bible study

Friday

- ❖ 0830Z — Islamic Jumaa'h prayer
- ❖ 1130Z — Orthodox Christian hymn service
- ❖ 1430Z — Jewish prayer

Saturday

- ❖ 0530Z — Seventh-Day Adventist worship
- ❖ 1130Z — Orthodox Christian Divine Liturgy
- ❖ 1430Z — Gospel Choir practice

Bagram chapel hours

Sunday

- ❖ 0500Z — Roman Catholic mass
- ❖ 0630Z — Protestant worship
- ❖ 0830Z — Latter-Day Saints worship
- ❖ 1430Z — Gospel service

Monday

- ❖ 0700Z — Rosary and prayers

Tuesday

- ❖ 0700Z — Rosary and prayers
- ❖ 1430Z — Protestant Bible study

Wednesday

- ❖ 0700Z — Roman Catholic mass
- ❖ 1430Z — Protestant mid-week service

Thursday

- ❖ 0700Z — Rosary and prayers
- ❖ 1430Z — Gospel Bible study

Friday

- ❖ 0700Z — Rosary and prayers
- ❖ 0830Z — Islamic Jumaa'h prayer
- ❖ 1130Z — Orthodox Christian hymn service
- ❖ 1430Z — Jewish prayer

Saturday

- ❖ 0530Z — Seventh-Day Adventist worship
- ❖ 1130Z — Orthodox Christian Divine Liturgy
- ❖ 1430Z — Gospel Choir practice
- ❖ 1500Z — Rosary and prayers

K2 chapel hours

Sunday

- ❖ 0300Z- Liturgical Service
- ❖ 0400,0730,1130Z-General Protestant Service
- ❖ 0530Z-Roman Catholic Mass
- ❖ 1230Z-Latter Day Saints

Monday

- ❖ 0230Z-Devotions and Prayer
- ❖ 1230Z-Catholic Mass

Tuesday

- ❖ 1230Z-Catholic Mass
- ❖ 1400Z-Biblestudy

Wednesday

- ❖ 0230Z-Devotions and Prayer
- ❖ 1230Z-Catholic Mass
- ❖ 1400Z-Midweek Praise Service

Thursday

- ❖ 1230Z-Catholic Mass

Friday

- ❖ 1400Z-Jewish Service
- ❖ 0230Z-Devotions and Prayer
- ❖ 1230Z-Catholic Mass
- ❖ 1400Z-Biblestudy

Saturday

- ❖ 0400Z-Jewish Service
- ❖ 1230Z-Catholic Mass

CJCMOTF chapel hours

Sunday

- ❖ 1100Z — Christina service
- ❖ 1430Z — U.S. Embassy service

Wednesday

- ❖ 1900Z — Bible study

2nd & 4th Thursdays

- ❖ 1900Z — Roman Catholic mass



	Bagram	K2	Kabul	KAF
W Today	 Hi — 82F Lo — 54F	 Hi — 90F Lo — 60F	 Hi — 84F Lo — 50F	 Hi — 102F Lo — 75F
e Sunday	 Hi — 84F Lo — 52F	 Hi — 93F Lo — 59F	 Hi — 84F Lo — 50F	 Hi — 100F Lo — 70F
a Monday	 Hi — 82F Lo — 54F	 Hi — 93F Lo — 59F	 Hi — 84F Lo — 50F	 Hi — 99F Lo — 72F

KMTC chapel hours

Sunday

- ❖ 0430Z — Protestant Service
- ❖ 0530Z — Roman Catholic Mass/Eucharist
- ❖ 0630Z — Latter Day Saints
- ❖ 1630Z — Protestant Service

Wednesday

- ❖ 1430Z — Bible Study

Friday

- ❖ 1530Z — Thank God It's Friday fellowship and singing

All events are held in FOB195 Chapel/Conference Room area.